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Charlestown Branch.

Accessions

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From the
Harris Fund
Received July 5 1892

Charlestown, N.H. 1854 10

1) C. Harris
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Charlestown August 6th 1779 —
to July 19 1780.

Dear Sir,
N^o 1.

Colonel Beekman mentions to me in his letter of the 3^d instant, that, since the removal of Colonel Garden's militia from their late post, there is a communication kept up between the main and Port Royal Island — I think it would be well for him to keep a few men there or in its vicinity — they should not remain long in one post, but daily shift their ground, and that under cover of the night, to prevent a surprise; this would answer the best purposes as a party of observation, as the enemy would not know how to avoid them —

Sir James Wallace, I am informed, is a man of enterprise, and is making such preparations as look like a design to attempt some of our posts by a coup de main, and Major Hynes's long stay but strengthens the suspicion — I think Georgetown our most vulnerable point, and indeed the only place, where he can promise himself success, and which is an object worthy his attention. This place, I apprehend, under its present situation, would fall an easy prey to a few hundred brave, determined men, and though they would not have it in their power to hold the possession, yet they might plunder the inhabitants, and burn the town ^{Box} — I am sorry to inform you that I have it not in my power to strengthen the Garrison then with any continental troops, saving with a few of the Artillery — would it not be well to call in a company or two of Militia? — He may attempt fort Mouttrie, but if our Garrison do their duty with vigilance, as I presume they will, little is to be apprehended from that Quarter, but, to make it still more secure, I shall reinforce it with two companies —

Complaints are frequently made that the Negroes are burning the Abatis, and that our works are thrown down by horses and Cattle feeding on them — I applied to Colonel Simmons for a small guard of the Militia to prevent these mischiefs, but received for answer

that he could not supply them — Is there no law of the State to prevent the horses and cattle running at large, and feeding on the works? — By a sentry or two more we could prevent the Abbatis from being destroyed —

For they can, in boats, pass by the battery or fort out of reach of their shot — besides they can pass in at the North inlet with small craft — As the protection of ~~the~~^{George} town is an object highly worthy our attention, I beg leave to recommend, as a means of safety, that a heavy flat-bottomed boat or two, with a gun in the prow, be constantly stationed in the North inlet, which will effectually command the pass — that a boat of the same kind be kept on the shoal (in front of the fort) to prevent the boats passing over it — and that one row-galley be stationed near the fort to haul down, in case of necessity, to prevent troops landing out of reach of it — that fourteen days salthed provisions be constantly kept in the fort — and that the Garrison be augmented to about 80 men

Count Butigny has frequently mentioned to me that he could raise a light corps of french troops for y^r next campaign provided he had some small encouragement from this State — He appears to me to be a Gentleman, who would submit to order and discipline & that the troops under him would render service — I wish therefore he might be supported — I purpose to send off tomorrow a small company of artillery men to the fort at Georgetown, if agreeable to you, or as it is, it would be easily carried and make a lodgement for the enemy, if they should go. I wish to be informed what instructions you have already given to the Garrison, that I should give to this party might not militate with yours —

Governor Rutledge

Charlestown August 6. 1779 Sam^r Tea

Dear Sir,

(2)

I have recd your favour of the 1st & 3^d instant I think, with you, that five field pieces are an over-proportion for the number of men you have in the field — I wish you would send two of them to town, let them be those two the carriages of which want repair — you mention a return of the troops, but it has not come to hand — I wish it may be sent by the next opportunity — I will endeavor to have some militia stationed where Colonel Garden had his late camp — Before you receive this the detachment from the second will join you — I need not represent to you that I think your post dangerous and your command critical, considering the situation of the enemy, and the means in their

3 power of throwing their troops across to the main at any hour, when they think proper; or urge you to vigilance and attention, your knowledge of service makes it unnecessary — I shall only request that you will not keep any store of provision on hand, which shall be an object for the enemy — Mr Cope should keep his cattle at some distance from camp — signals should be ordered and given by your out post, so that you might early know when the enemy are in motion — keep no more waggons, baggage, or any military stores than are absolutely necessary — I am sorry to hear that Mr Cope the Commissary has leave of absence — I think he is not in the line, and as supplying the army is a matter so extensive and unconfined to any particular part of it — I ought to have known his intention before he left camp.

I have enclosed a copy of the General Order approving the sentences of the General Court Martial against Dickey Ward and Michael Wall — you will please to send down all the spare arms and damaged ammunition.

Colonel Beckman

I am D^r Sir &c

RW 673.

(3) Dear Sir,

Charlestown August 7th 1779

Your favor of the 1st instant I received the last evening by express — The cruel and impolitic conduct of our people, who fell upon, and killed some of the friendly Indians, ought to be noticed with the highest disapprobation and held in the greatest contempt — indeed I can hardly think of a punishment, which would be too severe for such perpetrators of murder and injustice was the barbarous act committed with design — I hope it was not, I trust it was not, and that you will have it in your power to convince the nation that the affair happened through mistake, and that there was then no intention, nor is there any now injury them — The idea of plunder I am sensible is grown to a great length and though I find

4. it extremely difficult to restrain the people from plundering the
Indians, yet it will be hard for me to believe that these people
whose well being, if not their being, depends on the good dis-
position of the Indians, should be so left to their own interest
as to commit such outrage, for the sake of so paltry a reward
as the plunder, which could at any time be taken from an
Indian — your interposition in this matter is highly necessary.
I cannot doubt of your greatest exertions to soothe the repentment
of the nation, and avert the evils, which a tribe filled with
the spirit of revenge, uncultivated by the laws of society, would
cause to light on the heads of those, who have so sensibly
injured them —

In my last I mentioned to you that the Vir-
ginians were coming in, many of them are now in your
neighbourhood, and will be ready to succour the upper part
of the State, whenever it shall be necessary — I will request
the Governor to give you some militia as a guard to you
and the publick Store under your care —

The knowledge I
have of the value of the upper part of the country, the impor-
tance which its safety is to this and the neighbouring States
and the advantages, which would be thrown into the hands of
our enemies, were they in possession of it, will be motives, at
all times, to use every exertion in my power for its defence.

George Galphin Esquire

I am Dear Sir

Your affectionate Wm. Sew.

August 7.th 1779

(A) Sir,

The General requests that the Court would be
pleased to reconsider the trial of Capt. David Hopkins of
the third regiment of S^c Carolina, as, upon reading the
proceedings, he cannot conceive the Prisoner guilty
either of neglect of duty or absence without leave.

Lieut.^t Colonel Stoll

By order of the General
M. Chantreux A.D.

5 August 7th 1779 —

Sir
(5)

I do myself the honor to inclose you the copy of
an order of Council, empowering me to appoint a pay Master
for your Legion — untill that is done no pay can be drawn
for them — You will be pleased to mention to me one of
your Officers whom you think best qualified for this Trust
& I will appoint him immediately

RW 676

General Count Pulaski — I am &c —

(6)

Charlestown August 8th 1779

Sir. You will please to proceed immediately with the light Dragoons
part of General Pulaski's Legion / now under your command
to the ridge, where the troops from Virginia are encamped
you will remain there untill farther orders, or they remove,
in that case you will remove also — I beg to recommend
to your particular attention Order and discipline among the
Men, that they are not suffered to stroll, plunder and
distress the inhabitants — If you should find it necessary
to procure forage of private persons on the road you will
either pay for the same or give a receipt for yr quantity
you receive. To make it less burthenome on the
inhabitants receive and carry on as much as you
can from the publick stores at Dorchester and
Orangeburgh. You will not suffer your Men under
any pretensions whatever to sleep in the dew or lay
on the wet ground — if at any time your tents should
not be with you oblige your people to build bough
huts. I wish you a pleasant command and am
Major Vernier

Sir &c

RW 677

6 ++ Charlestown August 9. 1779

Dear Sir,

(7) Upon enquiring yesterday of Colonel Simmons into the State and numbers of the Militia of this town I found that between sixty and seventy were daily on duty, and that they had but three nights in bed - by this it appears there are short of three hundred men, besides Colonel Gumballs corps, who can be brought to do duty - add to these about 180 continental troops, the whole a number quite unequal on which to rigge the defence of this town - we have about six hundred men at Meldon, from which none can be drawn with safety to the remainder, and to abandon that post would be justified only from the most absolute necessity, as it would expose to the ravages of the enemy a large part of the country filled with Inhabitants, and abounding in provisions - There are already arrived from Virginia about five hundred horse and infantry and are stationed in the back parts of this State, near Augusta, for the sake of the healthiness of the climate, the convenience of forage, and that they might give early succour to the upper part of Georgia, to which is an object, which has claimed, and still claims the attention of the enemy, and to effect which they are making every exertion by detaching a part of the regular force, calling the Militia to arms, and are inviting and bringing the savages into the field to abet their designs. If we should ~~lose~~ the upper part of Georgia the ill consequences would be very seriously felt by this and the neighbouring States - our communication with the friendly tribes of the Indians would be cut off - a communication opened with the back settlements, from which the enemy would receive large reinforcements of men and the most ample supplies of provisions - therefore I think no men can be drawn from that part of the State - I have

(7) given your Excellency this very concise state of matters to shew to you some of the reasons why there are so few men in the town, and why I cannot reinforce it with continental troops — If I am wrong in my ideas of the importance of the other posts I shall be exceedingly happy to be undeceived — But upon the supposition that I am right I must request / as the safety of this town is involved in the measure, and for which I am in some sort accountable / that three hundred militia may be immediately drawn to its support — I am Dear Sir &c

Governor Rutledge
RW 681

Charlestown August 8th 1779

(8) Dear Sir, If the enemy, from their knowledge of the weak and unguarded state of this town, should be encouraged to attempt it by surprise, probably they would make it either by coming with their boats through James Island or Wappoo cut — I therefore beg leave to suggest to your Excellency, ^{the propriety} of hauling a Galley into the mouth of each of them — and as fort Moultrie, in its present state, may engage their attention also — I wish, that, untill I have it in my power to reinforce the Garrison, a row guard may be kept constantly in the night in front the fort passing and repassing across the channel in such manner, as that boats cannot land on the Island without their notice — these things will give safety to the town and fort, and quiet the minds of the inhabitants, many of whom seem greatly alarmed.

I would not have troubled you in these matters had I the power of executing them

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours &c

Governor Rutledge

81
Sir,

Charlestown August 3rd 1777

Captain Davis of the Artillery waits on you with this and comes with a detachment of the Artillery to take post in the fort at Cat Island — as he is the Senior officer to any there he will take the command of it — It is recommended to him in his orders to cultivate the most perfect harmony between his people and the Militia, and he is to do all in his power to instruct them in the use of the cannon, to obtain a knowledge of which I hope they will particularly attend, for it is uncertain how long Captⁿ Davis can be spared from the field — when he leaves the fort this knowledge will be important to them — I have directed him to apply to you for fourteen days provisions to be constantly kept in the fort with one hoghead of rum, and casks to hold a sufficiency of water for the Garrison for the same time if that in the fort cannot be drunk — I hope Sir that you will endeavor to impress on the minds of the Militia the necessity of obedience, vigilance, and industry, and of the importance it is for them most cordially to unite with the continental troops in every measure which shall tend to the safety of the Garrison, which I hope you will at present keep up to eighty men, rank, including the train — If you should augment the number and send them a field officer, the command of course will devolve on him — If some attention was paid to the battery in town, it would add to your safety as the enemy's ships could not find an approach within reach of it — it might therefore deter them from sending their ships into the harbour — as providing for the safety and defence of Georgetown seems committed to your care you will please to inform me from time to time of its state, & I shall be happy in rendering you every service in my power
Lieut^{Col} Colonel Mearns
Saml^r Sir

9)

Charleston August 10th 1779

Dear Sir,

Major Hyne returned last evening from Savannah, where he has been to negotiate an exchange of prisoners in this department - but was not able to effect an object so desirable as the extricating our friends from a miserable captivity - the chief obstacle was a demand made by the enemy that, previous to exchanging any Officers, Captⁿ Constathe and others must be admitted as to be prisoners of war, and eligible to an exchange, as is expressed in Captⁿ Shaw's proposals to Major Hyne in the following words "That all those Officers and others of the S^o and N^o Carolina Royalists, and Captⁿ Constathe of Delancey's provincials, who are now suffering in hard confinement under various pretences, be held as prisoners of war, and, as such, be deem'd eligible to be exchanged" - If you should be of opinion that the future safety and happiness of this State will admit a compliance with this demand, so far as it relates to your inhabitants - I think the matter will be made easy, and many of our friends soon relieved from that confinement, which justice and humanity call upon us to effect as early as possible - should the proposal be deem'd inadmissible, I shall be exceedingly happy in being favor'd with your reasons why it is rejected.

I am Dear Sir,

Governor Rutledge

with sentiments of regard & esteem
Your Excellency's most obed^t

Comptrol February 18th 1777
Capt James M. Silcox to say to the
Governor the said James M. Silcox
In & for the next year, James M. Silcox
shall be your discharge for the time
from your service to James M. Silcox
Joseph M. Silcox
Franklin & House, James M. Silcox & Co. v. 1

Due \$14.20 Paid 11 50
 Gun 3.00 or Rec^d Interest 2 70
 11.20 11 10
 Balance 4 April 7 3 70
 Received the 10 ill from 00
 under the name 14 20

112.00
 20.00
 10.00
 12.00
 1 36
 13.14

Joseph ...

Charl Town August 13. 1779.

(N^o 11) Dear Sir,

I should have been happy to have indulged you with you with the few days you requested to consider of the propriety of your accepting, or not, the office of commissary of purchases for this State — but could not as there was an opportunity of sending to Congress for confirmation of the appointment soon after you left Town — as the time you required for consideration, and the distance you would be from me when you should form your determinations would expend two or three weeks, and if, then, I should not receive an answer in the affirmative I could not be certain of the Gentleman who ~~was~~ willing to accept the trust, and as the public interest made it indispensably necessary to fill the office as early as possible — I was led to appoint a Gentleman in Town, whose knowledge of business, attention to it, and the confidence the people have in him, promise much good to the service — I am D^r Sir, with great respect &c

W 636
Major Whitfield

Charl Town Aug^t 13th 1779

(N^o 12) Dear Sir,

I received your favor of the 5th yesterday before this gets to hand you will receive mine of the 2^d instant, and, I hope, the shoes which I have ordered you — I now send three hundred and thirty pair of shoes in two casks by Mr. There is no stuff in the publick Store suitable for overalls — I have ordered the Clothier General to look out for, and purchase some which shall be sent on — as you will soon be in Town, I hope, — I shall defer sending the money, but will give it to you, or, if you should not come, send it by

to be - I hope the Surgeon's Mate has joined you -
the surgeon you may expect in a few days - you
judge right with respect to my embarrassment - but
I shall that prevent your application for every neces-
sary article either for yourself or men - for those which
are within my power will be supplied most readily,
and those, which are not, your goodness will as readily
supply - I am Dear Sir, with great regards.
Colonel Richard Parker Not sent you

(13) Dear Sir, + + Charlestown August 14th 1779

Your favors of the 4th, 5th, and 6th came to hand last
evening by Captain Cooper - I have ordered Col^l Parker with
the Infantry, and Major Jameson with the Horse to halt at
the ridge about 20 miles from Augusta, to which place I
have sent Count Pulaski's Horse, also - they are halted there
in a place contiguous for forage, healthy, and contiguous to
Augusta to which place they can be drawn suddenly
on any emergent occasion - I have preferred the ridge to
Augusta because you are not there prepared to make
a stand in case the enemy should make a movement,
as you are without artillery, ammunition &c
to draw the troops into Augusta, under these circumstances,
would but be an invitation to the enemy to attack you,
as they would in a few days have a full knowledge of
your strength and equipments - besides we should be
destroying the forage there before we are ready to make
any capital movement - but the moment the stores arrive
with you, and the Virginians have refreshed themselves and
their Horses, and a force is collected to make a stand, I
shall have no objection to the troops being removed into
Augusta - If before, any parties of the enemy should be

(13) marching towards you, and their number such, that by calling in these troops, you can oppose them with a good probability of success, you will do it by all means — I think you should be exceedingly cautious that the enemy are not attracted into your part of the country, by having cattle and provisions collected into any particular place, untill they can be effectually covered, and we have it in our power to oppose any number they can send out, which I think will soon be the case — therefore I would not precipitate the necessity of acting untill we are fully provided for it — I am too sensible of the unhappy situation of the inhabitants, and the affairs of Georgia to make any arrangement necessary to call my attention to them, or to induce me to do every thing in my power for their relief — consider for what a miserable state I am in — called upon to succour a distressed people, whose safety is, in some sort, committed to my care, while the means of doing it are withheld from me —

I agree with you that it is painful to the militia in Georgia to see those of Carolina receiving four times the pay they do — but differ in sentiment that I have a right to raise their pay, or that there would be a propriety in my doing it as a continental officer, while their regular troops, who have been long in service, and have borne the burden of the war so far, are held to the wages first stipulated with them — I am sure, should I make such a discrimination, the murmurs of the soldiery would be too great to be borne, too general to be easily quieted, and too well founded to be punished with rigour — the distinction of pay among the troops is not made by the Continent, but by particular States at their ~~own~~ expence — I wish your State would compensate your people for their services, and agreeable to their merits, I think they will, by and by, have it in their power to do so.

As we have no money in the military chest or have it in our power to borrow more than we want for our daily necessary expence, Colonel Wylly must defer

11 purchasing horses at present - indeed as Congress has
given between two and three hundred light Horses, including
those in Count Dalmat's Legion; and as the expense of raising
them at this time would be so enormous, and from our inability
to equip them, I should not think myself justified in
attempting it without their particular order, as I could
not place that necessity for them, which might be thought
a justification of the measure - for, when Colonel Hony
joins us with his Horses, we shall have between three and
four hundred - that number, with those of the Militia,
who will come on horseback of choice, and those of them
whom it may be necessary to keep so, can have an
allowance for the use of their horses, and to be paid for
of the price, will, I think, be as many as we
can secure forage for

I am sending on some powder,
bar, two field pieces, flints, paper, arms, nails, iron, and steel -
the other articles cannot be now sent - we have sent
aboard for supplies, which, when they arrive, I hope we
shall have a sufficiency for the army - I expect
only some money from the Northward - when that comes,
I will give some to Mr. Rae - the salt and rum for
the whole army will be purchased by the Commissary here,
Salt will be sent to Mr. Galphin's immediately - The
Military Chest for this State and Georgia, will be under
the care of Mr. Clay - he is appointed for both States -

I am sorry to find by your letter that Colonel
Hony is saying that he has at Camp and other places
thirteen waggons, which he purchased himself for the
State of Georgia - I know of no waggons he purchased
for any but the continental use - this idea of
different States, and distinct & separate interest, has,
in too many instances, distracted our affairs and

5) retarded the publick weal - I know but of the Southern
Department, whatever has been bought, has been for that
use, and when, for the safety of the whole, all is to be re-
moved to one part it will be done - I am Sir, &c.
General McIntosh

Char. Town August 14. 1779

My Gentlemen,

Give me leave to congratulate you and
my country on the important news lately received from the
West Indies - the taking of Grenada by Count D'Estaing, and
his success over Byron's fleet are events important to the
United States, and to none more so than Georgia. as it
may give such diversion to our enemy as to prevent
their reinforcing their troops in time in your State, and
give it an opportunity once more of enjoying those
blessings of peace, safety, and liberty to which they are
entitled, and for the establishment of which, on a firm and
permanent basis, they have suffered and are still
suffering a most severe conflict -

The deficiency of the pay
of your militia, compared with that of your neigh-
bours, I hope will claim your earliest attention, and
if your Treasury should not be supplied, as I suppose
it is not, an encouragement given to the men, that at
some future day they may expect a compensation
for their services, will have a tendency to quiet their
minds - Was it as much within my power as con-
sistent with my inclination, I would free the State
from all troubles on this head - but, as a continental
officer, I cannot make a discrimination between the
regular troops and the militia, unless it was in

10) in favor of the former, who have borne the burden of
the war — a different line of conduct, and for me to give
the militia, who are but occasionally out, greater wages
would be big with evils and create such jealousies in
the minds of the continentals as would be difficult
to remove, and such complaints as could not be answered
or quieted —

To preserve the friendly disposition of the
Indians, and to prevent any infringements on their rights, are
matters of the most serious concernment, and will be also I
suppose among the first objects of your deliberations.
With concern I lately heard that a number of our friends
have been killed by some of our people — I hope and trust
that it was not with design — and that you will have
it in your power so to convince y^e Indians, and that we
have been, and still are their unshaken friends, and are
disposed to keep bright y^e chain —

You will indulge me in
mentioning the necessity there is that something be done
to regulate a disposition of the property taken from the
enemy, and those of your inhabitants, who are among them
have hitherto attempted, so far as orders would go, to
throw ^{it} into a proper channel, which appeared to me
to be just — I have been, and still am, of opinion that,
if the unfriendly have forfeited their estates it is into
the hands of the State, and not into those of individuals,
— besides, if the Tories are to be plundered, and the plan
desires is to have y^e property, great evils may arise
to those of our friends, who are now in the hands of
the enemy, and have received their protection — I suppose
we have friends there, who, from ill health, old age, and
other causes, could not get off — to plunder whom

17) opinion, would be the highest injustice —

That you may have it in your power to quiet the minds of the people, afford them some consolation under their distresses, encourage them to persevere in their present exertions, and shortly to see them each one under his own vine / quietly enjoying the blessings of heaven, free and undisturbed — is the most ardent wish of him, who is, with great affection and esteem

The Honble The Council of Georgia

RW 689

Dear Sir,

No 15)

Charl Town August 15. 1779

I learn by your son that you are sending about fourteen hundred men from your State to reinforce the troops in Georgia this — I wish they might be marched through the upper parts of the country to the forks of broad and faluda rivers, and then halted, where provision is plenty, and the air healthy — your speedy arrival is most ardently wished for —

That the campaign may be short and agreeable, and these states soon relieved from their present embarrassment is the sincere wish of Dr Sir Yrs &c

General Ashe

RW 690

Charl Town August 10. 1779

16) Dear Sir,

I wish to know whether you have any stores on your wharf, which are now unoccupied, and if any, whether you will hire them to ye public for barracks, in which to cover the Negroes, now employed, and those which may be employed, on the public works in this town — I am Dr Sir &c

General Gaspere

RW 691

18) Dear Sir,

Charlestown August 10th 1779

It has been agreed between Major General
Burgoyne and myself that the prisoners on each side shall in
future be confined in some healthy place on shore - this
being under the necessity of requesting, as suitable barracks
for ye prisoners, the privilege of hiring the sugar houses
belonging to ye estate of ye late Mr. Savage, which, I am informed,
falls under your care - It may be said then are
many poor families in them already - that objection shall
be removed, by giving them rooms in ye new barracks -
I should not have made ye request, as the buildings are
occupied, but I know of none other in town - I am Dear Sir
with great esteem your affectionate servant
Wm. Thos. Bee Equin

RW 692

Charlestown August 17th 1779

Dear Sir, Capt. Drayton and Lieut. Smith of the 1st Regt.
Capt. Lefebvre of the second, Capt. Davis and Lieut. Davis
of the 2nd have been permitted to resign - When they first
applied I declined taking their commissions, and did not
do so until I conversed with you on the subject, after
which I accepted their resignations in ye order they applied
the second time - if the ^{new} commissions to be given out,
should be dated on ye day ye resignations are mentioned in
General Orders it will interfere with the rank of the
officers as they now stand, and w^{ch} that rank they would
have held, had I accepted the commissions when first
offered - The order in which that was done I do
not now remember - I therefore think Sir, that it
will be doing the greatest justice to ye Corps, if the
resignations be considered as on ye 15th instant, and their
commissions dated accordingly; and their relative rank
be determined by the dates of their former commissions.
I am Dear Sir
Your most obed^t
Governor Rutledge

RW 693

(10)

Charlestown August 19. 1779

2^d 19. Dear Sir,

I have the honor of your favours of 2^d 14, 12 & 13th

I hope Colonel Twigg will give a good account of the party of McGeist's men seen in Buck County —

I have ordered as many stores on as the Quarter Master could procure to transport — in future, what stores are sent for, waggons must be sent for them — we have them not here, neither can we hire them — they can be had in the back-Country —

I am sorry that it has been necessary to send the Virginians to Brian Creek, as they were so unprovided — because the place where you sent them is not so healthy as Augusta, and because, there is danger, unless great care is taken of the men, that they will waste by sickness, and we shall not soon be able to make those offensive movements, which the safety of the country requires — as soon as they have effected the purpose for which they were sent, and you can do it with propriety, you will let them return to Augusta or to the high land on this side of the river, where, I think the stores in your weak state should be kept — Flats should be provided in which to transport y^e men & stores readily across y^e river —

I do not recollect any Officer who has resigned in y^e Georgia Brigade since I came into the department saving Colonel Marbury — If any have heretofore resigned, they cannot by any means be admitted to reassume their commands — I long since wrote to Congress for their directions relative to y^e supernumerary officers in the Georgia Brigade — I expect every hour their determination on the matter, therefore no promotions can with any propriety take place untill then — you will please to give

20) such orders relative to calling in the Georgia Officers
as you think justice to them and the good of the service
make fit — Colonel Hopkins will give you the par-
ticulars of the late good news — Two field pieces will
come on with the stores — I am Dear Sir, &c

General McIntosh;

Charl Town Augth 19. 1779

Dear Sir,
N^o 20.

yours of y^e 6th I have rec^d by Mr. Phipps —
I have ordered on as many stores as waggons can be
procured to transport — In future, when you send
for stores you must send waggons from the upper
part of the Country where they can be procured — they
cannot be had here — I should be happy if you would
send down twenty waggons — I will return them all
loaded with stores of one kind and another — I am
sensible that you will be perplexed in settling accounts
I think with you that great care should be taken
that y^e public is not injured — I am sure you will do
all in your power to prevent it — you are right in
procuring corn in time — consult with Mr. Holmes, at Mr.
Galphins, who is employed by Mr. Rutledge, the purchasing
Commissary here — I will send you some money as
early as possible after it arrives — we have now now
saving what we borrow from day to day — I have
ordered such quantity of stores to be imported, that
the whole department will I hope be supplied —
I was very sorry to find in Gen^l McIntosh's letter
an idea held up by you that waggons were pur-
chased for the Georgia service — I know of no service but
the Continental — let us throw by all distinctions of
States — such have been kept up too long already.

If you ever send for money, draw a
for the sum you need — send your receipt.

on the back of it - I can sign it when it arrives and then the matter will be finished - I wish never to draw money out of the treasury to be accounted for afterwards -

Colonel Mylly

Charlestown August 20th 1779

N^o 21.

Dear Sir,

Your favours of the 11th & 15th instant are come to hand - the latter, covering the Indian Talks, I recd this morning - It gives me great pleasure to observe their friendly pro-
tections renewed; and I hope your future exertions, to renew our alliance with them permanent, will meet the wished success - my every effort to second so desirable a purpose you may rely on - no measure in my power, which may conduce thereto, will be neglected - and I think your wish to meet the Indians in person may, with safety to yourself, be shortly effected -

Your perfect knowledge of Indian affairs, and the confidence they repose in your friendship, omen well of our success - I am happy to find the Tallapsee King attributes the late unfortunate affair with his people to mistake in ours - and trust it will soon be in our power to convince him he has been wise as well as just in continuing his friendship - accept my thanks for your concern in recommending the upper Country as conducive to my health - I am happy to inform you I enjoy it unimpaired - and as my presence here is now necessary I must defer the pleasure of seeing you to a future day -

I am Dear Sir &c

George Galphin Esq.

Charl. Town Aug^t 22. 1779Q^u 11

I am informed that, by the Brig^{de} Polly, this State sent you last August fifty one Spanish prisoners, that three had been since discharged on parole by M^r Lowndes - that fifteen were before sent to East Florida, and that nine were returned in y^r same vessel, which leaves a balance of thirty in our favor, which number you will please to send by the returning Flag, if so many are in Augustines if not, as this vessel will call at Savannah - a certificate to Sir James Wallace, or to the commanding officer of the navy then for the time being, of the number due us - the affair I doubt not can be settled with him being in the same district - I have the honor to be &c

Governor Tryon of East Florida

RW 699

Charl. Town Aug^t 22. 1779

Dear Sir,

(N^o 23)

In settling the accounts in your department get through them as well as you can - give the inhabitants every indulgence in your power consistent with that justice which is at all times due to the public - I mean, do not let any defects in form bar the settlement when you are satisfied you have obtained a knowledge of the truth - let them know that they may not expect y^r same latitude in future, and that you shall not suffer. This conceives to be urged as a precedent in future -

I am D^r Sir &cColonel M^yles

23)

Char. Town Aug^t 22. 1779

Dear Sir,

24) I was just now honored with your favor of the 18th instant - shall always be happy to hear you on the matters of your distressed state, and doubly so, when it shall be in my power to afford it relief - for I feel too sensibly for its embarrassments, and for the fatigues, hardships, and the various discouragements of yr militia to be an unconcerned spectator or to omit any thing within my compass for their relief.

I am happy that the arrival of the advance of Gen^l Scott's troops has given any favorable turn to your affairs - the whole of them w^t yr N^o Carolina troops will assemble in the upper parts of the Country and thence be drawn to such parts as the common safety shall make necessary -

The importance of preserving the inhabitants from the outrages of yr Indians - retaining them in our interest - preventing them from joining the enemy - securing the provisions of the upper part of the country to ourselves, and thereby cutting off the enemy from that source - preventing their taking possession thereof / as thereby the whole State of Georgia would be lost to the United States, and the enemy have it in their power with great facility to recruit their army from among the unfriendly in the back settlements and would open a free communication with all of them / lay with so much weight on my mind that I cannot help exerting every means in my power to prevent the evils which probably would be consequent on a withdraw of our troops or on a failure of

24) of such reinforcements as are necessary to cover the country — My letter to you of the 14th will fully explain my views respecting ~~the~~ pay of your militia — I therefore shall not rehearse them in this —

The evils consequent on ~~yr~~ irregularities in the Dr. Mather's department will not be easily got over — for when method is departed from injustice may take place without design, and be practiced with impunity and unless care is taken by the Dr. Ma^r that any concessions he shall make in this settlement shall not be urged as a precedent in any subsequent settlements, he may be thought sanctifying an error by yielding to those defects in form — I have wrote to him in those settlements to attend strictly to a line, which will be doing justice to the individual without injury to the United States — and that ~~in~~ irregularities where he can come at the truth shall not bar the settlement —

You have sent for James Lambert David Russell, and Henry Ferguson — I do not find Lambert on our list — Ferguson is returned as a Captain, Russell as a private — I wish the State of these Prisoners had been mentioned to me before I had offered them in exchange for our friends now prisoners in Georgia, which I did in consequence of the advice of many of the inhabitants of your State — for if they are insisted on in consequence of the proposal I cannot but give them up in honor to myself, unless something very particular can be proved against them, therefore, I shall not send them, agreeable to your desire untill I hear farther from you on the matter —

If you should obtain the loan of any money from this State — I shall be happy in aiding it up — I am wth great affection
W^m Mearns, President of the Council of Georgia, 1791

25)

(No. 25) Dear Sir,

Char. Town August 22^d 1779

I was this morning honored with your favor of the 17th — I congratulate you on the success of Col^l Mogg and Major Jameson — a few such strokes as this will teach the enemy to act with caution, and preserve us from insult.

I cannot help wishing that you would, as soon as the service will permit of it, order back the troops that they may be refreshed and the horses recruited — but however you must be the judge when it can be done with safety — I am happy to hear that your men are not called to join General Williamson — you will want them —

From what I hear — the people of your state expect the beginning of September to make a constitutional assembly, and proceed on business agreeable to the direction of your Constitution — That they may come to some settlement is most ardently to be wished for — We are in such want of Horses in this part of the State, that the waggons and Artillery are not yet gone — I hope they will leave this today, or in the morning — I am Dr. Sir &c

Gen^l M^cIntosh
RW 702

26) Dear Colonel,

Char. Town August 23^d 1779

I was honored with the receipt of your favor of the 19th instant on y^e 21st — I am glad the cattle are removed at some distance from camp — I think three hundred are more than Mr. Cope should keep on hand at a time — a less number will do for our small army, and especially as the country in the vicinity of the Camp so fully abounds with them —

He ought not either to have them drove from the

It is a pity that there is so great a supply near the
front and which invite the enemy across the river -
you will please to give Mr. Cope this information -

If you will order us some waggons we will send you
bread - powder I suppose you have had enough left by
the N Carolina troops; if you have not - you will please
to mention it in your note by the waggons -

I see no prospect of sending you
any reinforcements at present or that you can have it
even in your power to succor those on the Savannah.
Colonel Garder's camp was broken up that he might
move it in his power to cover the inhabitants on the
river - I hope nothing in his power is left undone to
effect it - since the Assembly refused to fill up the
regts by draft, - they have had under consideration
the report of their Committee for raising four black
battalions, that also is rejected - To procure the men by
voluntary enlistment is aimed at, and as an encouragement
each man who shall enlist and serve 24 months is to
have a Negro given him and 100 acres of land - I wish
this may prove effectual to complete the battalions -
I enclose you the sentence of a court martial on
James Green -

My Compliments to Colonel Hony -
I wish to know whether he expects much company
in his U.S. when built, even if He should be permitted
to enter while like faith with Noah is to be the
criterion of admittance -

Colonel Beckman

I am Dear Sir,

with sentiments of regard, &c

P.S. your letter of the 21st I just now recd - I shall
speak to Col. Grints about forwarding it - The Assembly, I
hope, during it's present session, make such an provision for
the soldiers, as may correct that spirit of defection, which ^{now} prevails among them

27) (2:27) Dear Sir,

Charlestown August 23^d 1779

As the late accounts give us no reason to believe that peace and safety will soon be the happy lot of these Southern States - but should rather incline us to expect, when we consider the mode of warfare adopted by the enemy Northward, that, if they ^{have} given up the idea of conquest Southward, which I much doubt, slaughter and desolation will early mark their progress in these, as they have done in the Northern States - unless the greatest exertions are made to check them in their wicked and barbarous career - I cannot see the least reason we have to flatter ourselves that any thing which has taken place in the West Indies or on the continent will divert the enemy's designs against this State - or can justify the smallest relaxation on our part. - I therefore must beg leave to request that the State will furnish 4000 men for the next campaign, including their continental troops, and Colonel Horry's corps - and, if they should not be procured by ~~the~~ the beginning of October next, by voluntary enlistment, that so many of the militia shall be ordered to join the army, as will complete the number, be incorporated with them, and, to preserve order, and prevent complaint from the troops sent here by other States, that they may be subject to the same articles of war - If the State cannot engage to supply, and keep in the field that number of men - I beg to know from you Every what number they will engage - The present crisis so fully points to the propriety of these requests that I need not apologize for making them - I have the honor to be

Y^rce

Governor Rutledge

28. 28. (28. 28.)
Dear Sir

Charl. Town August 24. 1779

I wish you would be so good as to store the
arms and ammunition lately arrived in Georgetown from
Philadelphia - They are to be sent to Camden - I wish
to know from you -

Chas. Town August 24. 1779

28. 28. Sir,

The arms and ammunition arrived from
Philadelphia are ordered to Camden - to which place
you will please to escort them - you will inform me
by return of the Express, what corps you belong to, and
what orders you have recd - My further orders
you will recd at Camden I am Sir
Your most obed

The Officer
commanding the ammunition Escort
at Geo. Town

(28. 29)

Chas. Town Aug. 24. 1779

Dear Sir

I have recd information that there are a number
of sick soldiers at Camden left there on their march to and
from Camp, and that some are in private houses - for
particulars must refer you to Col. Kershaw - They to
suggest that in my opinion you had better provide some
suitable place for a hospital in that town, and forward
such necessaries as the sick may want - I am informed
that there is a Doctor in that town - It is probable
that he could attend the Hospital if you cannot
conveniently send a surgeon there for that purpose

L. Phyllant

I am Sir
Your most obed

29th 30. Dear Sir

Chat Town August 24. 1779

As Camden is a post at which most of the troops, in their march to and from Camp. halt and refresh themselves — a Hospital will soon be established there — besides there is constantly a guard to cover the Magazines — it will be necessary not only to establish a magazine of provision there but that some person should be sent and kept there to issue them —

You will think of this matter and make the necessary provision — I am Dear Sir
Thomas Rutledge Esq. Your most obed.

RW 708

N^o 31, Dear Sir,

Cha^s Town August 25th 1779

I am obliged to renew my request for Bills on N^o Carolina for three hundred thousand dollars and for one hundred thousand dollars in currency to be drawn from the treasury of this state — knowing the present low state of your finances — nothing but the most urgent necessity, and a belief that from the want of it very ill consequences might ensue would have induced me to repeat the request —

I wish the Bills on North Carolina might be drawn for twenty five thousand dollars each, as they could be more easily negotiated in case the money could not be had — If your Excellency will order the bills to be drawn, I will send for them tomorrow morning — I am Dear Sir,

Governor Rutledge Your affectionate slave Jas^t

RW 709

Charlottesville August 28. 1779

No 32. Dear Sir,

I had yesterday the honor of your favor of the 24th. — By a vessel from the Savanna we learn that on the 22^d. uttimo war was in form declared by the King of Spain against that — king of Great Britain, and that vessels were sent on a cruise against the English trade, and that one had been captured — we have reason to believe this is true as some deserters, who left Savanna last monday say that two Spanish vessels have been brought in there — These people from the Savanna also say that a fleet was to sail for New Orleans of very considerable force — if these declarations are true it may account for y^r. late movements at Port Royal Island — If they should attempt to leave it, and an opportunity should offer you to head on the heels of their rear, without risking too much — you will by all means do it — If the enemy should evacuate that post, and go to Savanna, I think Black Swamp the best post you can take, tho' Quinsburgh would be nearer to them, yet if they should cross above you in force, your situation would be rather disagreeable, as they would fall into your rear, and cut off the retreat of all your camp, saving your light troops — I think you had better give Mr. Cooper and her brother a pass — tho' I think it improper that there should be such passing and repassing, yet, untill there are guards established on the river, it is impossible to avoid it — for they can send from the other side, and make prisoners of them, and compel them to go —

Colonel Beckman

I am Dear Sir Sir

Charlestown August 28. 1779

N^o 33. Dear Sir,

I have been honored with your favor of the 15th instant -- I hope you will succeed in your attempt, and that the Indians and Tories, those Troublers of our peace, may be brought to reason and submission --

We have news from Havana that Spain has declared war against Britain, - if so we may soon expect to hear of some Spanish force in New Orleans, and thence towards Augustine -- Matters remain this way much as when you left us -- The Assembly have it under consideration whether the Militia shall be under continental articles - or not - when doing duty with the regulars -- it is said it will go down.

That you may have every success you wish for, and return soon, is the sincere prayer of
 General Williamson Your affecte^d t^h serv^t

RW 712

Dear Sir,

Charlestown August 30. 1779

N^o 34. Should the enemy have it in contemplation to leave Port Royal ^{Island}, and we mean to act against them with a probability of success by treading on their heels - it will be necessary that our boats be covered by some Gallies -- I therefore request that two or three of the state Gallies, at least, be manned and fitted for action as soon as possible, that we may have it in our power to avail ourselves of any advantages, which may be put into our hands either by the inattention of the enemy, or those consequent on their retreat -- These Gallies will also serve as a cover to such boats as we may find necessary to send forward -- I am D^r Sir &c

Governor Rutledge

RW 713

32. ++ Charleston August 31. 1779

I have the honor to inform your Excellency of the different occurrences in this department since my last of the 22^o ultimo —

Untill lately the greater part of the enemy's force has been in summer quarters on Port Royal Island — from the reports of deserters, and other accounts which corroborate them, they have drawn many of the troops from that Post to Georgia — leaving the 2^d Battⁿ of the 71st, three light companies, and 100 Hessians in all about 500 for the defence of the Island, round which are stationed their Gallies, and the armed ship vigilant — to strengthen themselves, they are drawing their troops into Beaufort, and are throwing up works at ye important passes leading to it.

Our little army composed of the Continental battalions of this State, about 90 M^o Carolina regulars, Count Pulaski's Infantry, his Dragoons being in the country, at, or near Augusta, amount to 8 or 900 men. 200 of them are stationed at Fort Moultrie, 100 in this town, and 600 in Camp at Sheldon —

I wish it was in our power to give full protection to every part of the Country, and effectually to check the Indians, employed by the enemy, in their excursions across the Savannah near Purpburg, where they have lately appeared, and done some mischief in the predatory way — but this is rather to be desired than effected with our present force —

Colonel Parker, with the 1st reg^t of Virginia Infantry, and Major Jameson with the Corps of

3) light dragoons, have passed through this state, and taken
post at Augusta — These, with the other troops, now on
their march, under Genl. Scott, will, from accounts I have
recd make about 1100 Continentals from that state —
N^o Carolina will send about 300. making together 1400
men — a number short more than half of those expected —
This deficiency has induced me to request of the
General Assembly, now sitting here, that this state will
furnish, and keep in the field, during the next cam-
paign, four thousand men, — and, if they are not to
be obtained by voluntary enlistment by the beginning
of October, that draughts be made from the Militia
to complete the number, and that those, while
in the field with the Continental troops, be under
the same regulations with them — how far I
shall succeed in this application is yet a doubt.

I hear that N^o Carolina has voted 2000 men, and
that draughts will be made on the Militia to com-
plete them — they are not yet embodied — I think
it will be late before they arrive, — an unfortunate
circumstance, indeed, as much depends on our taking
the field before the enemy receive their expected
reinforcements — to forward which, they sometime
ago sent a fleet of transports to New York, conveyed
by a number of armed vessels —

Can there remain a doubt
that the enemy will, as soon as reinforced, renew their
desires on this state? — and, as the present situation
of affairs in Europe and the West Indies may make

3d. it necessary for them to draw a part of their troops from the Continent — can it be questioned, but, when their remaining force in America is no longer sufficient to garrison their Northern possessions, they will, allured by the importance of the Object, and invited by our weakness, attempt the reduction of the Southern States —

By a vessel lately arrived here from Havanna we have been favoured with the very interesting intelligence that war has been declared by Spain against Britain, and proclaimed in that place on the 22^d ultimo — the report of a Spanish ship's crew, said to be a packet for Congress, taken by the English on the coast of N^o. Carolina, and set on from there, corresponds with this account

The enemy have marched the main body of their troops to Ebenezer in Georgia, where it is said they mean to fortify themselves — On the 14th Inst. Col. Twiggs of N^o. Georgia Militia, and Major Jameson of N^o. Virginia light dragoons fell in with and attacked a party of 25 of the enemy, commanded by the noted McGirt, near Bear Creek — killed five; made nine prisoners, five of them wounded, one of them a Lieut. of Moore's Loyalists — took 23 horses and 15 stands of arms — McGirt got off badly wounded — the enemy's accounts say he is since dead —

We had an officer of the Virginians wounded, and two horses wounded —

His Excellency John Jay Esq. } I have the honor to be
President in Congress } &c

Account 24 1776
John Cheney Dr £ 6-0
Ephraim Merrifield £ 6-0
Brewster H. Swarth £ 4-0
Solomon Gillist - £ 1-0
John Laffin - £ 6-0
Corjell Reed - £ 0-6
James Walker £ 2-6
Israel Lornis - £ 3-0
129

136M 29

B. 37

Nat. Town September 5: 1779

Dear Sir,

By my letter of yesterday's date you are informed that Count D'Estaing was off Savannah — since that I have seen one of his officers sent to establish some mode of co-operating with him, and to inform us that his stay would be very short — I therefore send by this second express to urge you to every exertion in your power that your troops reach the two sisters or Ebenezer Saturday next — if your infantry cannot do it, send all the Corps you can possibly collect — too much depends upon our vigour at this time to make the matter either indifferent or dispensable —

You will excuse my pressing the matter in such strong terms — I do not mean to call in question your zeal or dispatch, but to convey my own ideas how necessary I think the measure — Saturday next I have engaged that the Troops shall be collected near Ebenezer — the good of my Country, and my own honor demand from me a fulfillment of the engagement —

Tho' I thus write yet I am sensible that great care must be taken that the troops are not overmarched this hot weather, for thereby we shall destroy the healths of the men — after which they will be of little service —

I am Dear Sir,

General McIntosh

Your most obed. servant

37) 4:38

Charl Town Septem: 5th 1779

Dear Sir,

The more I reflect upon the transactions of this day, the more I am convinced of the necessity of our greatest exertions on ^{the} occasion — I must therefore request that your Excellency would relieve the Troops now at Fort Moultrie by some Country Militia — that the Grenadiers, Lt Infantry, Fusiliers, Volunteers, and True Blues, all Militia of this Town, be ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning —

I must also request that one company of the Train, from this Town, be sent to Fort Moultrie this evening or in the morning early, for the Continentals then, must then be brought off — I am D^r Sir &c
Governor Rutledge

4:39 RW 717

Charl Town Septem: 5th 1779

I have the pleasure to congratulate Congress on the arrival of Count D'Estain's Fleet off Savannah — The Count has sent one of his officers on shore to establish a plan of operations — he returns immediately to the Fleet with dispatches on that head —

I am sorry to inform Congress that the Count can continue on this coast but a short time, and that the aid we will be able to afford him is very inconsiderable — all the troops are ordered to take the field, and I expect we shall have assembled at Ebenezer or in its vicinity by the 11th instant one thousand men — it has been proposed to the Count to land 3000 troops I hope he will do it — I am sure he will if in his power; —

every exertion will be made to co-operate with him and I hope the necessity of his speedy return, or any other cause will not render abortive that plan, from the execution of which so much good will result to the common cause — I am Sir &c &c
President Jay RW 725

38) N^o 40
Dear Sir,

Charl Town Septem^r. 6. 1779

You will immediately on the receipt of this be pleased to detach different parties up the Savannah as high as the Sisters, and down below Purisburgh as far as Gibbons's to collect all boats of every kind, which may be on the river — You will also send off six Waggons to Combaker ferry —

A party of Men must be sent with Colonel Senf to act under his orders, to provide for our crossing the Savannah —

Count D'Estaing is off Savannah we mean to co-operate with him Saturday or Sunday next — You will hold yourself in readiness to march for the Savannah Thursday morning

General Huger

I am Dear Sir &c

Dear Sir,
N^o 41

Lobby's ferry Sept^r. 12. 1779

A few of our troops crossed the Savannah last evening — the remainder are nearly over — I expect this afternoon to be on the main road between Ebenezer and Savannah Town with most of the Troops — It will be with difficulty that we shall transport our Artillery, whether it will be possible to pass it or not here, remains a doubt. — the great and unexpected rise of the River has caused us great embarrassment,

I hope we shall conquer them — I will write you again this day if possible — I am Dear Sir &c

Governor Rutledge

Lobby's ferry (west side) Sept^r. 13. 1779

N^o 42
I had the honor of writing to you yesterday afternoon by one of my family, who meeting with the enemy's posts, and from the insufficiency of his Guide

was obliged to return — I now send this by Major McClewin to whom I have communicated my sentiments concerning our junction — If you have any dispatches for me, you may venture to charge him with them — I have no doubt but they will be delivered speedily and with faithfulness — I can't venture to communicate to your Excellency my ideas relative to our future movements, lest my letter should fall into the enemy's hands — several other expresses are sent different ways — some of which I am hopeful will arrive — I have the honor to be
 Sca

His Excellency Count D'Estaing

13 Copies of the above letter were sent by Col. Twigg, Col. Habersham, and Mr. Clay —

RW 720(2)

N^o 43.

Dear General,

Gully's ferry (west side) Sept^r 14th 79. 11 o'clock a.m.

I just recd your favor of this date with letters from Count D'Estaing; they were only duplicates of what we recd yesterday — I have no line from him relative to his landing his troops — all I learn is by the postscript of your letter wrote by Capt^r Washington

I wish you would send some person to see the Count and let him know our situation and that we are ready to co-operate with him, as soon as he is ready.

I sent off two expresses yesterday afternoon — I hope one at least reached him, and that I shall soon have certain intelligence of his movements — I have ordered on your Cavalry — they will join you before you recd this

I am D^r Sir Sca

Genl. Pulaski

10 Dear Sir, West side Dubby's ferry Sept. 14. 1779.

N^o 44.

Your favor of Colloct I had the honor of receiving in the evening of the 12.th every recommendation from your Excellency and the Governor in Council will be thankfully recd and particularly attended to.

I hope our success will be such as to answer your expectations - and the wishes of this Country

I have heard nothing from Count D'Estaing - I attempted in y^e evening of the 12.th to get an express to him - but fail'd - yesterday I attempted it again by different Persons and Routes - I hope they will succeed, for I cannot move untill I am informed of the Count's situation - for our force here is not equal to that of the Enemy - Our artillery all cross'd y^e Savannah yesterday - Our baggage is crossing, for which we shall not wait - but shall move as soon as the Count shall be ready to co-operate with us - from the want of Boats, and from the bridges and causeways being destroyed we have met wth great delays, and the people have been much fatigued - About 350 men are arrived from Augusta - 12 o'clock - A.M.

By an express from Genl. Pulaski I'm this instant informed that Count D'Estaing is at Beaufort and has landed some troops - I am Dear Governor Rutledge

N^o 45

Camp near Ebenezer Sept. 15. 1779

Sir, I am happy that you so early took possession of Beaufort, and have been so fortunate as to save so much property for y^e inhabitants of y^e State - I think you had better remain on the Island wth your few Troops, regulate matters, and keep the property from being carried off - I am Sir, your most obed

Major Barnwell

4) Sir, No 46

On yr march to Cherokee hill, Sept 15. 79

You will please immediately to repair to Hubby's ferry and then recce under your care two waggon loads of cartridges from Chat Town loaded by Capt. lining - as also the cartridges of the 5th Regt. - indeed all of ammunition at the ferry you will take under your care if there is no officer left with it - If the ammunition is not arrived you will go on and meet it - Call on the Q^r Master for a number of Horses, which he will send on wth you, and if possible a waggon to lighten those coming on - When the ammunition is at the ferry - you will take a decked trading boat, and transport it to Abercorn, where waggons must be sent to recce it - The Q^r Master, and all their assistants are directed to give you every assistance you may need - they will impress horses where they are to be had - Remember Sir, that the ammunition must be on - every exertion on your part is necessary

Capt. Stedman
RW 724

I am Sir &c

No 47 Sir,

Sept 15th 1779

You will immediately return towards Augusta until you meet the ammunition waggons coming from that place, sent on by Genl McIntosh - you will call on Colonel Wylly for horses to relieve those in yr waggons - tell him he must procure them by buying or impressing - at any rate they must be had - the ammunition must be up - every exertion on your part is necessary - Horses must be relieved as often as is necessary - the ammunition must not be halted on the road until it comes up wth yr army

I am Sir &c

D. Wadding

RW 725

42) N^o 48

Sept^r 17th 1779

You will immediately procure one hundred Collars or breast plates for horses of leather — you will send out parties to all the plantations, and impress all the hoes and spades — you will secure all the horses in your power for the public use —

You will secure all the Ox teams and Carts in the neighbourhood — you will send off a waggon early in y^e morning to Beulah for two hundred fathoms of two inch rope, two hundred fathoms of three inch d^o and one hundred fathoms of 4 inch d^o, for which you will obtain Count D'Estain's Orders —

Colonel Wyly

I am Sir Yours^t Secy

RW 727
Dear Sir,
N^o 49

Milker's plantation 3 miles from Savannah
Sept^r 16. 1779

Arrived here this morning — The Count landed some of his Troops the ^{day} before yesterday, the remainder he will land perhaps tomorrow — Savannah is now invested — the events of War are uncertain — Therefore, I have taken every measure in my power to procure your exchange — Major Habersham will give you the reasons why I have not succeeded according to my wishes, and what prospect there is that it may be speedily effected in one way or another — I wish you health, and the blessing of freedom, and am Dr. Sir

Colonel Walton

Your most obed^t Serv^t

Sir, No 50

Sept^r 19th 1779

I hear from a deserter that the enemy have taken out all the cannon from their ships saving the upper light guns — that the sailors and Marines man the redoubts — that he made his escape thro' their lines between the barracks and their right — he does not know their numbers or their designs — I shall confine him — he appears to be shrewd, has been ten years in y^e British service — I hear a number of Deserters are gone to your camp — I wish they may be all confined — if your Excellency will send them here I will have them secured.

Count D'Estaing RW729 I am wth y^e greatest regard &c.

Sir, No 51

Sept^r 19th 1779

I am of opinion (not sent)

My Dear Colonel,

Septem^r 19. 1779

I am informed by Colonel de Cambray that you are far advanced of Gen^l Huger — my meaning was that you should encamp on a line with him, only on the opposite side of the Augusta road.

If you think your post unsafe to-night I wish you would fall back to the ground I before mentioned — I will strengthen you and Gen^l Huger tomorrow by the Chas^l Town Brigade —

Colonel Laurens

I am my Dear Col. &c.

P.B. On the enclosed sketch I have noted your post, if that ground is suitable, if not move a little in front or rear —

12.52

Camp before Savannah Septem^r 19. 1779

Dear Sir,

Arrived here about noon the 10th just after the
 Count had summoned Gen^l Prevost to surrender the Town —
 correspondence was kept up, ^{until the evening of the 17th} I think for no other pur-
 pose than to give Maitland time to join, which was
 effected on y^e same day, when the Count recd a letter
 from Gen^l Prevost purporting his intentions to defend the
 Town — yesterday I had an oppy to reconnoitre it in
 front and on the right — the enemy have thrown up
 a number of new works since the arrival of the Fleet
 and are now pretty well covered wth redoubts and batteries
 in their front, and on the left, which I saw the day
 before — a number of the Count's smaller ships are in
 the river, and are now landing the remainder of their
 troops 20 odd hundred being at first landed and their
 artillery — every preparation is making to reduce the
 Town, which I think will be effected — this matters may
 be a little serious just — From the want of express
 and Horses — I am denied the oppy of giving y^e Excy such
 frequent information as you ^{may} wish to rec^e, and
 which would give me pleasure to convey —

If you will send on express
 I will write you once a day at least — I suspect Col
 Drayton is not in Town; I am therefore under the necessity
 of asking y^e Excy to send on by a Horseman a ream
 of good paper, and a few sticks of wax — I shall soon
 be out — as the French have none on shore — I hear
 nothing from y^e Count of his determination to raise the
 siege in eight days — I think he will persevere to the

end —

I am &c

Gouverneur Rutledge

45) 12:53

Sept^r 19th 1779

Sir, I am informed by the Master of a Rebel boat of the Prisoners who made their escape from the Prison at Savannah the night before last, that the enemy have unmanned their ships, which are below - and that on board the Powey there are only six Men, and on board some ships only one Man and a Boy - as your ships are arrived, could not the enemy be taken by boats -

Count D'Estaing

I have the honor to be &c

D^r Sir, 12:54

Camp before Savannah Sept^r 20. 1779

You will please to send on to Count D'Estaing a large quantity of rice - his fleet is in great want of that article - you will apply to the D^r D^r M^r Gent or one of his Assistants for Rebels; if they cannot be hired, you will apply to his Excy the Governor to order them impressed - too much depends upon the speedy arrival of these supplies to admit of any delay - If the Count should send any small rebel addressed to you for rice load them also - I need not urge you to every exertion on your part, - your own feeling, and regard for the public interest will prompt you to it - I am D^r Sir w^t regard &c

Thomas Rutledge Esquire

P.S. Mr Livingston has 800 lbs of rice on board of two Rebels in y^r harbor, for which if you apply to Mr. Riddle, his Clerk, he will give orders for the Rebels immediately to proceed to the Count - As the rice belongs to the public, he does not think himself justifiable in selling it - but will receive a like quantity in return, whenever the executive authority shall permit y^r exportation of that article and, otherwise pay such expenses as shall accrue on this loan -

167
No 55September 20th 1779

I have had the happiness to procure three pilots
for the Savannah. Capt. Hardie / who will do himself
the honor to deliver this / was Capt. of a Galley kept in
the Savannah, and has a good knowledge of the River.
Capt. Deane formerly followed the London trade, sailing
from this place — and Mr. Thomas, who has also been
an officer on board one of our Gallies here — I hope they
will answer your Excy's best wishes — they wait on
you for your orders — I have the honor to be &c

Count D'Estaing

RW 734

No 56

September 20th 1779

Colonel Law has communicated to me your letter
to him of this morning and also the letter of the Chevalier
Ponciau to yr. Excy — I am filled wth inexpressible concern
that the badness of yr. weather and yr. state of yr. Fleet
should increase your embarrassments, and add to that
weight, which must necessarily lay too heavy on your
Mind — nothing in my power shall be left undone
to make it lighter — I will immediately send off
to Chat Town and order a large quantity of rice to
you — If I find any stores nearer, I think there
is some, I will send that also — Yr. Excy, will, if
you think proper, send on such small vessels as you
can spare, to Chat Town for the same purpose —

They will apply to Tho^s. Shuttleage Esq. for their
load who will have my orders to freight them —

Your fleet may receive a plenty of good water
from the Savannah opposite Brewton's — I am making
and shall continue to make every exertion to
procure you a sufficiency of Pilots — For many

47)

other matters I beg leave to refer you to Col. Law. Mayr wth whom I have conversed freely on the subject of the letter you did me the honor to send the last evening your letter to him then, and this morning, and the letters accompanying them — I have the honor to be &c

Count D. Estaing

P.S. since writing the above I learn by a Gent^l acting wth of Com^{dr} Gent — that he left Chat Taux last Tuesday that he came in a vessel loaded wth rice for the fleet and that a number of others are loading besides.

I have procured 800 barrels of rice now loaded on board two vessels in Chat Taux, which also will be sent on

Rw 736 (2)

Dear Sir,
N^o 57

++

Camp before Savannah Sept. 22. 79

The weather for four or five days past has been very unfavourable to our operations, as it has prevented the Count from landing his men, Artillery, and Ordnance stores — but this is a fine day, and I hope many of them will be on shore by night. Unfortunately for us his Artillery is not mounted on travelling carriages, nor has he more than one pair of wheels on which to transport the cannon.

As a substitute we are picking up the wheels from the timber Cutters, and making trucks from the bodies of large trees — so that we shall, I think, surmount the difficulty, and if the cannon and Mortars can be speedily landed — they will soon be before the enemies' lines, to effect which, and his original purpose nothing will be left undone by the Count or his Officers — they seem much engaged in the cause — though we have met with some unavoidable

Rw 737 (1)

45' delay - yet if the winds and the sea will be calm
for a few days, I think matters will wear a good aspect.
I mean that a number of small privateers fitted out
from Chat Town, are now plundering the Islands, and
distressing the inhabitants - would it not be well
to keep them under some restrictions - they pretend
what is not believed, that their commissions give
them this privilege - The Army today takes a
position nearer the enemy. Jan. Sea -
Governor Rutledge

RW 73041

Sir
No 58

Camp Sept. 22nd 1779

The wheels and ten waggon will be this
morning sent to our Excy's Quarters, and the officer
will take your orders - The D. M. Genl. complains
that when he sends waggon to your Excy's Camp,
the horses are taken by the officers, and that he
has one returned this moment wth three horses only -

I need but mention this matter to your Excy to
have it rectified -

I have ordered you the waggon
you request to remove your baggage, and one to
Lieut Dillon - I wish to have them returned as
soon as possible - as they will be necessary to
move our own Camp -

I will send your Excy's letter
to Monsieur Plombard immediately.

Count D'Estaing

RW 732

I have the honor to be
Your Excy's most obed

Camp Sept 22. 1779

Dear Sir

N^o 59

The army are shifting their ground —
 Gen. Mifflin later part on the right of the Augusta road
 his left near to it, and near to the road which leads to
 Telfair's plantation — You will please to cover his
 left — if Col. Canby should be there he will point
 you to your ground, if he is not — Gen. Mifflin and you
 will look for the best post to answer the purpose of
 covering him, and which shall be secure for yourself
 Col. Mifflin Dr Sir Yrs affectionately

Col. Mifflin

RW739

N^o 60

Dear Sir

Camp before Savannah Sept 23rd

Nothing material has taken place since
 I did myself the honor to write you yesterday

I have requested your Bro. the Commissary
 to send on a quantity of rice for yr use of yr fleet
 that he should apply to yr Dr. W. for Receipts, if they
 were not to be had — I have requested him to
 apply to G^r Excy. to order them impregned —

The Count seems exceedingly anxious for supplies
 of his fleet — I hope nothing will be left undone
 on Our part to procure them, — and that if he
 should be obliged to leave the coast it will not
 be from any neglect on our part

Governor Rutledge

I am Dear Sir

wth great respectYour Excy's most obed. Serv^t

RW735

St. Louis. Camp before Savannah Sept. 24. 1779

No. 61.

Swift permit all the Continental officers, who can be spared from Camp to meet the militia in the ^{the} Wood.

Last night the French troops broke ground near the enemy's lines, towards their left — they were very little annoyed — if we are not prevented from the want of entrenching tools we shall to-morrow open the ground towards their right — a number of heavy cannon are landed, and the Count informed me last night that some would be up today — The accounts we get from Savannah are vague and uncertain with regard to the spirits of the people, their supplies, and their numbers — and in many other points — but in this they all agree that the enemy have armed their Negroes.

Governor Rutledge. I am Dear Sir &c

RW 741

D. Sir.

Camp before Savannah Sept. 24. 79

The winds and the seas are not under our controul; we must acquiesce after having done our duty.

You will continue to send on supplies as fast as possible, don't forget the rum — I will write you tomorrow or next day by your express — Major Clarkson will send you the news — I thank you for your care of my letter. I learn by it that my family were well a little before the date of it (Aug. 12) my compliments to Mrs. Drayton, and love to your little sons — Your most obed^t

Cot. Drayton

RW 742

My Dear Sir,

Camp before Savannah Sept. 24.

I am very glad that you detained the N. Carolina militia in town — for they cannot I think arrive here in time —

Ground was broke last night very near the enemy's lines towards their left, with very little interruption — the Cannon and Mortars will soon be up, and ground opened in different places — I hope you have

RW 742

37) recovered your former good state of health — I should
write you to Camp — but think the matter will be de-
termined one way or the other before you can possibly
arrive —
I am My Dear Sir &c

Genl. Moultrie

RW 943 (2)

Sir,

Camp before Savannah Sept. 25. 1779

I have had the honor of your letter by Major
Lam, which I was to have answered yesterday morning
but was prevented by being informed that the enemy
were marching to our left, which, and the necessity was
of my time as to prevent it — since I have not seen
the Major — we have no correspondence with Genl.
Prevost at present — but the very first opportunity I
will attempt to settle matters wth him agreeable to your
wishes — In the mean time I have sent Col. Baker
wth a party of men to protect the Prisoners from the
incursions of those Marauders who are passing and re-
passing through the Country I have also sent on a
person to supply you —

I enclose you a copy of Col. Baker's
instructions — if they are deviated from by his Officers
I wish to know it by the earliest opportunity — when you
see Majr. Haversham he will inform you of the several
attempts, which have been made to procure your
exchange — the time, I think, is not far distant
when it will be effected — Your advice to the Genl.
on parole ought to be strictly attended to — they
should by no means leave sundry but in cases
of necessity —

I have the honor to be

Col. Walton

Sir &c

RW 944

52) Dear Sir,

Camp before Savannah Sept. 25. 1779

I recd just now your favor of Wednesday night of Sept and the paper which is very acceptable

In my letter of y^e. 24th I mentioned that we had broken ground towards y^e. left of the enemy - just after the express set off they sallied wth two or three hundred men on the punch troops, who were covering the works - both parties suffered very considerably it is said by a man since out of Savannah that the British had fifty privates killed and three ~~wounded~~ officers, among them a Captain, who commanded -

The French acted wth great spirit, lost a number of officers and men, followed the enemy very near their lines and were greatly annoyed by a cannonade on their return - a Battery was thrown up last night, and two 18 pounders mounted, and were discharged several times this morning - but were so exposed from one of the enemy's lines - that the Count ordered them to desist - and will cover them to night - he lost a good Artillery Officer this morning - four eighteen pounders are up and some mortars -

From the great scarcity of intrenching tools, the Count having very few, we are obliged to suspend throwing up works on the right of the enemy, until the other is finished - in which our people are employed wth y^e French, as well as in covering the workmen - removing such heavy cannon as the Counts are, being iron, and the ordnance stores, necessarily take up considerable time but a little perseverance I think will carry us well through, and terminate matters according to our best wishes and those of our friends - I think the Count will remain until Savannah is reduced,

(3) tho' his situation is exceedingly critical w^t regard to the trust
India Islands, and his ships, which have suffered much
since they have been on the coast by losing their anchors
&c. — But a concern for the honor of his Nation, his
honor, and his regard for the United States will pre-
dominate over every other motive, and prompt him to
persevere — I am D^r Sir &c.
Governor Rutledge

RW 745(2)

Dear Sir,

Camp before Savannah Sept^r 25. 1779

I had yesterday the honor of your favor
of the 22^d — I congratulate you on your success
against the Indians, and on the prospect there is
that our frontiers will in future be safe —

I wish your speedy arrival, and that if
we succeed against Savannah you may be a
share in the honors of an event from which the
peace and happiness of the Southern States so
much depends — We opened a battery on the
enemy this morning — I am D^r Sir, &c.
General Williamfon

RW 746

Dear Sir,

Camp before Savannah Sept^r 26. 79

The baggage of the third regiment was
unloaded at Publick's ferry, to bring on the baggage
of the Militia — the baggage of that regiment is at
Abecorn — You will please to send the three waggons
for it — The Officers suffer from the want of it.
We have no waggons here to send after it — We
have been obliged to supply Count D'Estaing with
about twenty to bring up ordnance, &c. &c., and
the troops are obliged to lay their baggage on the
ground tho' within cannon shot of the enemy.
There are inconveniences we must suffer to

RW 747(1)

54) to promote the common good — I have said thus
much on the matter to shew you that y^e scarcity of
waggons now arises from the large demand of the Count
and that the three I send for are less than your propⁿ
of those we are obliged to supply him. — I wish to
know how many you have remaining — that, if I have
called for more than your proportion, I may send you
others — I am D^r Sir Jca

Col Simons

60 747(2)

Camp before Savannah Septem^r 27th 1779
7 o'clock A. M.

Dear Sir,

I am this moment informed that the Experiment
is taken by the Iphigene frigate, on board of her was
the officer, who it is said was to take command at Savannah
— Colonel Campbell is among the captured officers — The
Count has rec^d information that there is at sea a
number of transports wth 2000 troops on board, who
were conveyed by two ships of war — if they do not get
information of him — I think they must fall into his
hands — I am D^r Sir Jca

Governor Rutledge

Camp before Savannah Sept. 26. 79

Dear Sir,

I now write rather to comply wth my promise
than because I have any thing material to communicate.

One of our Gallies commanded by y^e French Captⁿ
hauled up last night near and cannonaded the
town — the enemy opened a battery on her by which
she suffered considerably, lost her bowsprit, had one gun
dismounted, and one burst — she then dropped out of reach
of y^e battery — The works are carrying on, and most
of the Cannon, Mortars, and Ordnance stores are up

The frigates are getting up the river,

35)
and will soon be within reach of the Town — we have
succeeded in getting up the ordnance far beyond my
expectation — we were so fortunate as to procure
from the dismounted Militia (most of them came on
horseback, and their horses were of no service on ^{the} lines)
one hundred and forty odd horses — Hope in a few
Yoke of Oxen soon accomplished ^{the} business — I will
endeavor to send to Your Excellency tomorrow a sketch
of the Town of Savannah, Our posts &c &c
Governor Rutledge I am D^r Sir &c &c

RW 748(2)

Sir,

Camp Septemb^r 27 1779

I have ordered a quantity of rice to be pur-
chased, & shipped to your Excy — but have not de-
termined the quantity — you will please to inform
me what quantity you will need, that I may
give my orders accordingly — I congratulate
your Excy on the success of your fleet —

Count D'Estaing

I have the honor to be &c &c

RW 749

Sir,

Camp before Savannah Sept^r 28 79

I just now recd your favor of the 26th inst^t
and thank you for the information it contains —
I believe that Maitland wth his troops are in
the Town of Savannah — the troops you saw
must be of some other Corps — I shall endeavor
to have these vessels intercepted — I wish you would
assemble all the Men of your regiment, who have
not joined us in Camp, and take post on the
Carolina side opposite Hutchinson's Island to prevent
the escape of any of the enemy; or those who are

RW 750(1)

50) now in Town from funding an Asylum there -
By this movement I think you will have it in your
power to render very essential services to your Country
therefore an object, which will claim your early
attention I am D. Sir wth regards &c

Wm. L. Garrison
RW 750(2)

Camp before Savannah Sept. 28. 79

Dear Sir,

I had yesterday the honor of receiving your
three letters of the 25. The enemy sallied the night
before last upon our people in the intrenchments - we
suffered no loss, or did we suffer any yesterday - They
made a more important sortie last night so far
as I can judge from the heavy fire which was kept
up for some time - the enemy were repulsed - I have
not had the particulars - Our batteries will not be
again opened untill they are all completed and a
bombardment can commence wth g^d cannonade, which
will take place in a very few days, unless the enemy
should be so fortunate as to get possession of our batteries
of which I think there is very little danger

I applied to the Count yesterday to
know what quantity of rice he expects from us - I
now suspect that it will be far short of what I
imagined he would need a few days ago - as early
as I get an answer I will write to Mr. Comins your
brother on the subject - in the mean time I wish
he would not make any purchases or ship any
rice - I have not seen the time when I thought
it a proper one to mention to the Count the matter
of Augustine for he has been excessively embarrassed

57) with respect to his Fleet, and the delay he has already met with — but I most certainly will mention it, and urge the measure upon him in the most forcible manner in my power — I think in the day of prosperity there will be an hour when it can be done with more probability of success than the present one — but if an opportunity should sooner offer of doing it I shall embrace it — I intended to inclose you Excy this morning a plan of Savannah, the enemy's lines, our encampment &c &c but could not get the copy finished in time to send it by this express —

The enemy are taking down the brick barracks in the front of the Town —

I have the honor to be &c
P. B. The enemy did not leave their lines last night — the firing was occasional by mistake —
Governor Rutledge

RW 751(2)
Dear Sir, Camp before Savannah Septem^r. 28th 1793

Previous to the opening of our batteries on Savannah, I think the enemy will attempt to remove their women and children, and all useless mouths up the river.

Though on the first consideration, to prevent this, may appear to arise from the want of those tender and humane feelings which ornament every virtuous breast — yet upon farther reflection I think it will be approved as dictated by the most generous and benevolent principles — for while the besieged are encumbered wth so many persons who cannot aid in the defence of the Town, and whose cries and intreaties may have weight wth y^r. commanding officer earlier to give up the Garrison than otherwise he might be inclined to do, and thereby save the lives of a great number of men, who probably must fall, should the most obstinate resistance be made — I think

58) the measure justifiable — You will therefore please to detach parties to cover the borders of the river in your rear, and prevent the launching of any boats by which we may be injured. I am D. Sir &c

Col. Simons
RW 75210

Camp before Savannah Sept. 29. 1779

Dear Sir,

I recd your favor dated Sunday 30th clock the last evening — I will make particular enquiry for, and if I shall obtain, will secure the Negro Pilot you mention — Since Count D'Estaing's application to me for rice, he says that he is informed that it cannot be used on board the fleet as it takes such large quantity of water to boil it, and because they have not proper kettles to cook it in, and reported to me yesterday that he wanted fifty barrels only — I have wrote to Mr. Comming your Brother not to purchase any more for the Count —

Nothing particular took place yesterday, or may^d be expected for a few days — every exertion is made to complete our works &c —

Governor Rutledge
RW 753

I am D. Sir &c

Camp before Savannah Sept. 29. 1779

Sir,

Since Count D'Estaing first applied to me for rice, he says he has been informed that it cannot be used on board his fleet as it expends too great a quantity of water, and they have no proper cooking kettles — he therefore wants fifty barrels only — I wish I had known this sooner, it would have saved you some trouble —

You will not send on or purchase for him any more what has been sent, if he don't want it all, will be kept for the army — I am Sir &c

Thos. Rutledge Esq

59) Dear Sir, Camp before Savannah Septem^r 29 1779

Your favor of the 27.th I recd the last evening — since the Count's application to me for rice for his fleet, he informs me that he shall want only fifty barrels — for that it expends so much water and having no proper Kettles in which to boil it, it cannot be cooked on board — your farther exertions therefore in this matter will be unnecessary — accept my thanks for the attention you have paid to it —

You judge right with respect to the sum but you need not send on more of that article at present, for the Court will supply us — I am happy to hear that the money is come on — Mr. Clay is appointed pay Master for both States, so that you must now rec^d from him — I will ask him to lodge a sum at Cha^s Town, and depute some person there —

As Major Clarkson has a knack at writing news, if not making it, he will send you the whole — I have therefore only to request you would tender my compts to Mrs. Drayton and love to your little sons — I am D^r Sir &c

Cot. Drayton
RW 755

Camp before Savannah Sept. 29. 1779

Dear Sir,

I had last night the honor of your obliging favor of the 26.th — I thank you for it, and for the several pieces of interesting intelligence with which you have been so kind as to favor me — I pray don't be discouraged from writing if I should not particularly answer every letter for I assure you if I do not — the seeming neglect will arise from the want of any news to communicate, and not from

It, you being "troublesome or unentertaining" for the very
contrary is the case — Our batteries are preparing.
The cannon and mortars are most of them up, as also
great quantities of ordnance stores — I will endeavor to
write you again as early as we have ^{any} thing to com-
municate worth your attention I am D. Sir &c

Timothy Esq.
RW 15861

Camp before Savannah Sept. 30. 1779

Dear Sir,

I just now returned from the intrenchment, —
a bomb battery, with nine mortars now mounted in it,
is nearly completed — two batteries for cannon will be
finished in about 48 hours — soon after that I think we
shall know the effect of a warm cannonade and
bombardment on the Town — I wish it may be such as
to preclude the necessity of any other attack — The bomb
battery is on the left of the Cannon, and a battery is now
throwing up on the left of the bomb which will
serve as a cover to it, and in which will be placed
some six pounders — I am D. Sir &c

Governor Rutledge
RW 1587

Camp before Savannah Sept. 30. 1779

Sir,

I have spoke to the Count on the subject matter
of your letter — he tells me that his orders are pre-emptory
against plundering — but to prevent any difficulty in
future, and to restrain those disorderly men, he will
order 6 Dragoons of his Corps to join six of ours, who
will act together, and secure the French — therefore
you will attend to the American marauders, plunderers
and thieves only — I am Sir —

Col. Stephens

RW 1588

7)

Camp before Savannah October 1. 1779

Dear Sir,

Your favor of this days date I just now recd and am very happy that the enemy gave up witho^{ut} contest — I thank you and thank you for your attention to this matter — you will please to send some careful man on board to take charge of the vessels — he must have the hatchways sealed that none of the property be taken out — but such as he has orders to deliver — you will send the arms to Camp — they are much needed, — and you will please to return yourself in y^e morning that I may have an opp^o of making such enquiries relative to this matter as may be necessary — I am D^r Sir &c
Colonel White

AW 760

Sir,

Camp before Savannah October 1. 1779

I am informed by Mr. Stirk, who a few days since was permitted to leave Savannah, that he was indulged by Gen^l. McIntosh to go wth a flag from Augusta to that Town, that he took ^{two} Dragoons wth him, and intended to have left them without your first post; but, when he was recd there, your Officer insisted upon his taking the Dragoons into Savannah, and that they are now detained there, because it was thought unnecessary that they should have accompanied him to that place — I trust, Sir, that on a review of the matter, and that their going to Savannah was against the will of Mr. Stirk, whose intentions were that they should only attend him through the Country, you will permit them to leave the Town immediately —

His Excellency
Major Gen^l. Prevost —

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency's most obed^t.

62) Camp before Savannah October 1.st 1779

Dear Sir,

++
Our batteries will be completed to morrow
and opened the morning after — my expectations that
any thing decisive will be the result, are by no means
equal to my wishes — I am fully of opinion that a
more determined mode of attack must be adopted and
pursued before Savannah is ours — I am Dear Sir &c.
Governor Rutledge

MS 762

Camp before Savannah Oct.^r 2^d 1779

Dear Sir,

On the approach of the French fleet, the
were driven into Ogeechee river a number of vessels
among them two armed sloops of 14, & 12 guns, they
carried the sick and ye remains of Sunbury Garrison,
and landed on the banks of the river — I am happy
to inform your Excellency that the night before
last, Col White, with his servant, and five others,
summoned them to surrender wth menaces, if they
did not do it immediately, they must abide the
consequences of a storm — the commanding officer
thought proper to comply wth the request — By
this we have five vessels and 141 Prisoners in our
possession — I am D^r Sir &c.

Governor Rutledge

Camp before Savannah Oct.^r 4th

Sir,

Your letter by Mr. Maxwell I rec^d last night
I will give him a protection agreeable to your
desire — I have called upon the officers on board,
MS 763(1)

(63)
who are now in camp, to return to Sunbury and remain
there, untill the fate of Savannah is known — As the events
of war are uncertain, I shall do all in my power in
time to provide for the gentlemen on parole — my duty
and inclination will conspire to prompt me to protect
as far as in my power the property in Savannah,
which you recommend to my care — I am Sir &c
Col. Walton
AW 763(2)

Dear Sir,

Camp before Savannah October 4/1799

The express arrived so late last evening
as to prevent my writing — yesterday seven o'clock was
assigned for opening our batteries — But on the Count's
finding that the enemy opened a Counter Battery to
his, he thought it best to suspend the commencement
of the cannonade untill this morning, at which
time he expected to complete a 4 gun battery begun
the night before — From midnight untill two
this morning the enemy were bombarded — between
five and six this morning our batteries were opened —
the bombardment and cannonade is now very heavy.

There are now, if the last battery is finished,
I suppose it is, thirty three cannon, and nine mortars
playing on the enemy from our batteries — besides
there are several Ketches in the river, which, from
their situation must greatly annoy the enemy —
The ships fired a few shots the other day, and
it is said, they enfiladed the enemy, almost the
whole of their line — I am D^r Sir, &c
Governor Rutledge
RW 764

(21)

Camp before Savannah October 5th 1779

Dear Sir,

7 o'clock a.m.

The bombardment and cannonade continued, with great interest, until the evening — It is said the enemy are repairing one of their batteries of seven guns, and that it is but rare they fire from it — this is one of the best they built as a counter battery to one of ours —

This is all we know of the effects of yesterday saving some injury done to the houses — There has been very little cannonading this morning — it is at present too foggy — Our loss yesterday two men wounded one of them of the Chat Town Artillery — I am D^r Sir John Governor Rutledge

RW 763

Camp before Savannah October 6th 1779

Dear Sir,

Nothing very important took place the last 24 hours — a few houses were set on fire by our shells — the cannonade and bombardment continues — matters will soon come to a crisis

Governor Rutledge

I am D^r Sir John

RW 765

Camp before Savannah Oct. 7. 1779

Dear Sir,

The siege is continued — Our approaches were made last night about 150 yds nearer the enemies lines — They from many circumstances appear to be in want of Ordnance Stores — their fire is become very languid and our people are at work to day within about 200 yards of their lines — Count D'Estring complains that the small vessels sent to supply his fleet with wood, and water here, are very inattentive to their duty and most of them altogether neglect the business they have been hired to perform — as they have

(65) been hired by your Excy, and are therefore subject to your control, I wish some gentleman of character and influence might be sent out to take the direction of the whole of them — I am very certain it would be quite acceptable to the Court, and would prevent in future those complaints which are now made against them

Governor Rutledge

RW 765(2)

I am Dear Sir &c

Sir,

++

Camp before Savannah October 6. 1779

We are persuaded that your Excy knows all that your duty prescribes — perhaps your zeal has already interfered with your judgement — The Court D'Island personally and alone responsible for the consequences of your obstinacy — The time which you informed him in the commencement of the siege would be necessary for the arrangement of articles, including the different Orders of Men in your Town, had no other object than that of receiving succour — such conduct Sir, is sufficient to forbid every intercourse between us, which might occasion the least loss of time — besides, in the present application labor reasons may again exist — there are military ones, which in frequent instances have prevented the indulgence you request — it is with regret that we yield to the austerity of our functions and we deplore the fate of those persons, who will be the victims of your conduct and the delusion which appears to prevail in your mind —

His Excy

Major Genl. O'Neale

RW 766

We are, with respect

Sir, Your Excellency's most obed.

signed — Estling

B. Lincoln

60) Camp before Savannah Oct. 9. 1779

Dear Sir,

I have only time to inform you that an unsuccessful attempt was made this morning on the enemies lines - Our loss is not yet ascertained, when I can get an exact return of the killed and wounded - I will do myself the honor to transmit it to you with some other pieces of information - enclosed you will receive a list of the killed and wounded officers that have come to our knowledge. I am D^r Sir &c

Governor Rutledge

RW 967

Camp before Savannah October 10. 1779

For you mention in one of your letters since I came here, that if your exchange cannot now be effected - it is your wish to be permitted on parole without limitation as regard to place - I shall be exceedingly happy if this can be brought about, and all the Gentlemen with you enjoy the benefit of such an indulgence - it is difficult for me to propose to Genl Prevost - at this time as he is sensible if Savannah falls we shall then take Officers enough to redeem all such as we now have on parole - therefore I think he would construe the application in me as indicating a doubt of success - But then would not be so fair an opening for that construction should you with the other officers apply to the General for that indulgence - Col. White is kind enough to become the bearer of this, and will confer fully with you on the subject and bring your answer

Col. Walton

RW 968

I am Sir,

Your most obed.

Dear Sir,

Camp before Savannah October 10. 1779

What I thought was a secret this morning viz. the County designs to raise the siege, is no longer so. Count Dillon is now removing the Ordnance, and

RW 969

59/ the whole matter must be out in a few hours — I shall
in the first instance take post at Christchurch to cover
one sick and wounded, and fall towards Chal. Town to
cover it — I think it cannot be doubted, if the enemy
receive any considerable reinforcements, but that they
will attempt to possess themselves of it — I therefore
wish that Labourers might be called in to complete
the works about the Town and Harbour — Col. Cambrey
will oversee it — I wish also that the floating batteries
might be finished — that the regiments may be filled
up, if the present encouragement will fill them, — and
that the Militia might be held in readiness to march
on the shortest notice — Besides, Humanity dictates
that some proper Asylum be thought of for the
Women and Children of the town, if it should be
besieged — a Magazine of provision should be im-
mediately stored in Town — rice can now be secured
and Beef, and pork as early as the salt will preserve
it should be put up also — I wish the Magazine
at Orangeburgh might be formed as soon as
possible — I am Dear Sir &c
Governor Rutledge

RW 709(2)

Dear Sir,

Camp before Savannah Oct. 10. 1779.

Capt. Shubrick will wait on your Excellency
with this letter, and communicate to you many matters
which I have mentioned in confidence, and dare not
now for fear of accident commit to writing — but think
it my duty thus early to communicate them to you
that you may adopt measures for the safety of the
State I am Dear Sir &c

Governor Rutledge

68. *Mr.* Camp before Savannah Oct. 11. 1779

I am exceedingly embarrassed on account of our sick and wounded — they cannot be carried by land, and I have no vessels, near, at command — I am therefore constrained to request of your Excellency a vessel or two which came from Char. Town to your assistance — I am well assured, if it is in your power, my request will be granted, if it is not granted, I can only lament the disappointment, while I am convinced it was unavoidable.

Count D'Eslaign I am wth y^r warmest sentiments of regard & respect

Rw 970

Camp before Savannah Oct. 11. 1779

Mr. I have sent to your assistance sixty good horses, under the care of Mr. Weatherford and Mr. Martin — they will strictly obey y^r orders of Major Homan I am Sir &c

Count Dillon

Camp before Savannah Oct. 11. 1779

Mr. I had yesterday, towards evening, the honor of your Excellency's letter of that date — Orders were immediately given for y^r return of the waggons — I hope they have been recd — am sorry they were detained so long — I beg you Excellency to recd my thanks for y^r loan of them.

You mentioned Lieut. Campbell and Mr. Tracy to be exchanged for a Lieut. and an Ensign — I do not recollect the circumstance of their capture, or whether they are now wth us, or are on parole wth you — but, however I have no objections to y^r exchange, and if the former is the case I will send the Gent^l in — or, if the latter they will remain to act wth you on y^r release of the senior American Lieut. and Ensign now on parole by your indulgence — I some time since indulged you of

Rw 971

Your Officers to leave Chat Town and return to Savannah
in 20 days, in case four Officers named, of like rank, were not
exchanged for them — I wish to know whether the exchange is
agreed to, or they are to return —

By this flag is a letter to Mrs McIntosh
from the General requesting her to come out, if permitted, —
I hope yr request will be granted

General Prevost

I have the honor to be &c

RW 771 (+)

Camp before Savannah Oct. 13. 1779

Jr,

I am just honored with your Excellency's letter
of this date — I have no partiality for Mr. Fraser, in
preference to Mr. Lowen — they are both Officers in the American
service, and are equally entitled to my protection — Mr.
Fraser is the Senior prisoner, I therefore named him
and request that, as such, he may now be liberated.

Mr. Lowen is at Sunbury — You mention
that any Field Officer, Prisoner w. you, shall be exchanged
for Capt. Knowles — I therefore propose Col. Walton — Capt.
Knowles may act as early as I have your answer
in answer to this — I have the honor to be

General Prevost

Your Excellency's most obed.

RW 771

Jr,

Camp before Savannah Oct. 13. 79

I had yr honor of receiving your letter of the 11.th
in the evening of the same day — I observe in the
parish of Capt. J. Williams, that he engaged to return
to Chat Town in 20 days from the 26. of Oct. unless Capt. Bass
an American prisoner of war was exchanged for him —
on examining the list of our prisoners, I do not find any
Gentleman of that name — I presume there is none,
and that it was entered through mistake — Capt.
Kornby is yr next senior Captain — I wish a certificate

70) might be sent out that Capt^s Wright and Hornby are
exchanged for Capt^s I and J Williams — and that Lt^s
Mofby ^{for Lt} and Philips — Lieut^t Black was to return
in 20 days, agreeable to y^r tenor of his parole, unless
Lt^t Huntington should be sent out for him — he was
not sent out within the time agreed on — but kept in
close confinement on board the prison ship — untill he made
his escape therefrom about the 20th ult^{mo} — I think for,
this Gent^l should have been liberated at y^r time the exch^g
was appointed to, by your Excy, or at least before y^r ex-
piration of the 20 days, and not suffer the miseries
and indignities of a prison-ship after — As it was not
done, I cannot think Mr. Black is liberated from his
parole, and must request his return, unless Mr. Frazer
our next senior prisoner, is exchanged for him —

Gen^l. Prevost

I have the honor to be &c

R. 277131

Camp before Savannah Oct. 14. 79

for,

It is w^t pleasure I inform you that your
exchange is at last effected — pray leave S^t Marys
as soon as possible, and, if you think proper, attempt
by the shortest route to reach the heights of Ebenezer

I send you the enclosed certificate, and request
that you would fill up the blanks w^t y^r officers' names,
whose right it is to be exchanged —

Col. Wallon

I am for — &c

R. 277132

Camp before Savannah Oct. 14. 79

for,

I am this morning hon^d w^t your Excellency's favor
of yesterday's date — In justice to Mr. Cowen I am
constrained to observe that a few days since he came
here from Carolina, and at my request went to S^t Marys

Four British prisoners were sent in w^t

R. 277133

71) the Gent^l, whose parole I do myself the pleasure to forward.
I am to request that a like number of American pris-
=ners be sent out — I have the honor to be sc
Gent. Prevost

RW 774(2)

Camp before Savannah Oct. 15. 79

Sir, I had the honor last night of your favor
of the 13.th covering your letter to Gent. Prevost, which
for the reasons you mention I shall not send in, or
do any thing which can be construed into a concession
that y^r. Officers at Sunbury are held to remain at
the pleasure to inform you yesterday that you
were exchanged — I hope you have rec^d the letter

It will be difficult for me now to remove the
British Officers at Sunbury — I may effect an
exchange of them — I am Sir Y^r
Col. Walton

Camp before Savannah Oct. 17. 79

Sir, As probably from the events of war, it
will be necessary that we should soon decamp, and
with most of the troops cross the Savannah, which
may give an alarm to y^r. upper part of y^r. Country
and cause our friends to despair of further support.
I wish that you would immediately go up to
Augusta, represent to the people, that they have
nothing new to apprehend, and that every possible
assistance will be given to them —

Give me leave to suggest that
it would be for the interest of the State to call the assembly
were convened as soon as possible, your Government
organised, and Members sent to Congress

Col. Walton

I am D^r. Sir Y^r

72) Dear Sir, Camp before Savannah October 18. 1779

I this minute recd yr. favor of yesterday's date — I am truly unhappy that it is not in my power to afford that assistance to distressed families, which they so much need, and sorry that you so long delayed the application — for, if I had been last Saturday advised of the matter, you now mention, I then could have made provision for removing the families — but it is now out of my power I am Dr. Sir &c

Capt. Dollar Junbury

Camp before Savannah Oct. 18. 79

Sir,

I had last evening the honor of your favor of the 10. I have frequently mentioned to Count D'Etain the situation of the Vigilant, and the vessels covered by her — but he thinks his vessels of equal force wth her draw too much water to follow her — he meets wth a difficulty in procuring pilots for the river — If you have any, and could send them off to Tybee, wth the exact situation of yr. vessels, and the depth of water in the river, if it is practicable, the Count will attempt to capture these vessels — I am sorry to hear that your men desert — now is the time when every person should exert themselves in the cause of their Country — You will please to give all the support you can to Major Barnwell on Port Royal — I think he should remove all the valuable stock, and the riches of the place — especially such parts thereof as may profit our enemy, should it fall into their hands I am Sir &c

Col. Garden

RW 777

73)

Heights of Ebenezer Oct. 19. 1779

Dear Sir,

I was favored wth yr letter of the 15. this morning — I am happy to observe yr Indians continue their professions of friendship, which, from my reliance on yr influence wth them, I am persuaded may be realized.

It would have given me great pleasure to have informed you that our efforts against Savannah had met more success — but the state of affairs wth yr French obliged yr Court to raise yr siege — yet, altho' the event has not altogether equalled our wishes — the enemy have recd such a check as will prevent their soon acting wth any great degree of vigour.

Congress seem resolved to support yr Southern States, and I shortly expect a reinforcement for the security of yr part of the Country. I have sent Col. Parker wth yr troops under his command, and Col. Temple wth yr Horse to Augusta — You will please apply to Genl. McIntosh for yr ammunition you lent him — I think it will be in his power to return it as I mean to send him a farther supply.

Your wishes for my safety, and happiness claim my thanks, and exact yr like return from me for yours — I am Dr. Sir &c

Geo. Salphin Esq.
RW 778

Northampton October 20th 1779

Sir,

We yesterday recrossed the Savannah wth our troops — I have desired the commanding Officer at Dublin to remain there until the sick, wounded, and the Stores are removed, and then take post at Sheldon and if he has an opportunity he is to distress the enemy in May River, or elsewhere — If there is a prospect

RW 779

74) of discharging them, you will please to let Col. Thomson know of it — If there is no opening for that, you will leave your post, when it becomes hazardous to you or Col. Thomson's leaving his ground — I wish you would confer wth him, co-operate wth him, and take such post for y^r. security of y^r. country, and for distressing y^r. enemy, as you may judge right

Col. Garden I am Sir &c

Sir,

Char. Town October 22. 1779

In my last of y^r. 5th ultimo I had the honor of informing Congress that Count D'Estaing was arrived off Savannah

Orders were immediately given for assembling y^r. Troops — they reached Lubbs Ferry and its vicinity on y^r. 11th and some were thrown on — the 12th & 13th were spent in crossing y^r. troops and baggage, which was effected — tho' not without great fatigue from y^r. badness of y^r. roads through a deep swamp of near three miles, in which are many large creeks — y^r. bridges over them the enemy had broken down — We encamped on the heights of Ebenezer 23 miles from Savannah and were there joined by y^r. troops from Augusta under Gen^l. McIntosh — 14th not being able to ascertain whether the Count had yet landed his troops, tho' several expresses had been sent for that purpose, we remained encamped — on the 15th being advised that the Count had disembarked.

75) part of his troops, and that he would that night take post 9 miles from Savannah - we moved, and encamped at Cherokee hill, 8 miles from the Town - the 10. we formed a junction before Savannah - after reconnoitering the enemies' works, finding the Town well covered, and knowing their determination to defend it - it was deemed necessary to make some approaches, and try y. effects of artillery - from the 18. to y. 23. we were employed in landing and getting up the heavy ordnance and stores, a work of difficulty from the want of proper wheels to transport them - the cannon being on ship carriages - on y. evening of the same day ground was broke, and on the 5th the batteries of 33 Cannon and 9 mortars were opened on the enemy, and continued w. intervals until y. 8th without the desired effect -

The period having long since elapsed which y. Court had assigned for this expedition and his receiving information from the engineer that much more time must be spent, if he expected to reduce y. Garrison by regular approaches - and his longer stay being in-
-admirable - matters were reduced to y. alternative of raising the siege immediately, and giving up all thoughts of conquest, or attempting the Garrison by storm - the latter was agreed on, and in y. morning of y. 9th the attack was made it proved unsuccessful - we were repulsed w. some loss - soon after the Court communicated to me his intentions of raising the

siege — I endeavored to divert him from his purpose representing to him in y^e strongest terms in my power y^e evils which would attend y^e measure —

I rec^d for answer that he had in y^e first place informed us that he could remain on shore 8 days only — and that he had spent four times that number — and that such was y^e situation of his fleet, and its supplies — and y^e ungarrisoned state of y^e West Indies — that his departure from this place was become indispensable, and that to re-embark his Ordnance and Stores claimed his next attention this was completed on the 18th The same evening, having previously sent off our sick, wounded, and heavy baggage, the American troops left y^e ground encamped reached Subly's ferry the next morning recrossed and encamped that night in Carolina

The French troops encamped on the night of the 18th about 2 miles from Savannah, w^h their right to Brewton's hill, in which encampment they remained 24 hours to give us time to recross the Savannah — they were then to re-embark at Lincoln's landing —

Our disappointment is great, and what adds much to y^e poignancy of our grief is the loss of a number of brave officers and men among them the late intrepid Count Pulaski.

Count D'Estaing has undoubtedly the interest of America much at heart — this he has evidenced by his coming to our assistance, by his constant attention during y^e siege, by his

77) undertaking to reduce the enemy by assault, by
when he despaired of effecting it otherwise, and by
bravely putting himself at the head of his troops, and
leading them to y^e attack — in our service he
has freely bled — I feel much for him — for while
he is suffering y^e distresses of painful wounds, he
has to combat y^e torment of chagrin — I hope
he will be consoled by an assurance that tho' he
has not succeeded according to his wishes, and
those of America, we regard with high appro-
bation his intentions to serve us, and that his
want of success will not lessen our ideas of his
merit.

I should have enclosed a list of y^e killed
and wounded in y^e last action — but the Adjutant
Genl., in whose hands they are, tho' on his way,
is not arrived in Town — but so far as I can
remember the whole is 170 —

Major Clarkson will have the honor
of delivering this — from his attention and
assiduity in service, he has had an opportunity of
remarking each particular — this his merit
has improved, and enabled him to give Congress
every satisfactory information — to him they
leave to refer them for a minute detail

I have the honor to be
with great esteem,

Your Excellency's most obed^t.

His Excellency

Sam^l. Huntington Esq.

Presid. in Congress

Charl Town October 22. 1779

Gentlemen

I have had yr honor of your favor of 22^d 13 aug^r and that of the 24th septem^r - the former I should have answered before - but have been diverted therefrom by our late expedition to 3^d forward, which has failed from the necessity Count D'Estang was under to leave this coast - If we had had time to have continued our approaches regularly we could have carried them to the enemies' works - but, unfortunately for us, he could not remain longer before the town - These States are in a very ungarded situation - we have not 1000 troops fit for duty, including the S^t and N^t Carolinians and yr Virginians - the latter w^t Col. Bland's horse I have sent to Augusta, in order to give confidence to yr people, to check the unfriendly, and to curb the Indians - The 2^d, 3^d and 5th reg^s of Pa^laskie and Col. Hony's horse will at present remain at Sheldon - the 1st & 6th at Fort Moultrie - the N^t Carolina troops in Town - I have not had one line from Gen^l. Scott - by late accounts I am informed he is at Peters-burgh, and that his men are sickly - few Continental Troops may be expected from N^t Carolina - I don't know what number of militia they will send - By this short account of matters, you will, Gent^l, see that without the farther exertions of Congress, their late order notwithstanding, these States must fall a sacrifice, if the enemy mean seriously to attempt them, and that they will, we are certain if they regard their own interest - The loss to

(79)
shall sustain hereby, and y^e great acquisition to the
enemy, are too conspicuous to need pointing out - and are
events too serious not to demand every attention of Congress.
I hope therefore, that they will insist that the
number of Men which they require from the neighbouring
States, be supplied wth punctuality and dispatch -
I am sorry to inform you that little ~~may~~ be ex-
pected from this State unless they rescind their late
resolutions - for after solemn debate in y^e assembly
it was resolved that the militia should not be draughted
to fill up the Continental Battalions - that the Black
Regiments, recommended by Congress, should not be raised
and that the Militia, while in the field, should not
be subject to Continental articles of war - I
mention these things wth great reluctance, because
it may seem like a reflection on the State, and
should certainly have spared y^e observation, but
could I have omitted it consistent wth my duty - but
you ought to know what are our resources,
and expectations, or you cannot provide against
the worst - We have been very unfortunate
respecting the Vessels sent out hence for stores to
y^e West Indies both by the Continent, and the State.
Most of them have been taken, and those
which arrived came to a bad market - further
attempts must be made, or I apprehend we shall
suffer from the want of many necessary articles,
as I find by your letter that the Northern supplies
are not very ample - To fortify and secure
this Town, the Magazine of the State, and to obtain

88

You extract from my Journal from the 3^d Sept.
to the 20th of October and have the honor to be

Gentlemen I ca

Ad 78121

Cha: Town October 24th 1779

Colonel Lau Moye will do himself the honor to deliver this to your Excellency - He is on furlough, and goes to ascertain the matter whether he is to return to his nation this winter or not, and to settle some particular business - from his knowledge in his profession, his constant and regular attendance on y^e duties of it, he will be able to give you a very particular acct. of our work in this Town, and in its vicinity - and from the very active part he took in y^e Siege at Savannah - and from y^e opportunity he had of knowing Count D'Etain's movements, and in many instances y^e reasons of them, he will be able to give you a most minute detail - If he should remain in America another winter - I think he cannot any where be more serviceable than in this Department - for his knowledge & assiduity has justly gained him confidence & esteem - I therefore as well on y^e acct. of y^e people, as on my own request that he may be permitted to return as soon as possible I am Dr. Sir &c.

200 175 175

81)

Cha! Town October 24th 1779

Sir,

When Col. Laumoy came into this department he informed me that he was under obligations to return toward this fall, and then to France — but a late letter from Genl. Portail — he is in doubt whether he is soon to return to his Nation or not — he is therefore permitted to go on furlough to ascertain this matter and settle some business in Phila^a and at Head Quarters.

Int^l pleasure is given to this, as from his knowledge in his profession, and his constant attention on the duties of it he will be able to give Congress a most minute account of y^r state of our works here, and a particular detail of our late expedition to Savannah — If he remains in America, I am to request Congress that he may be permitted to return here, where he has much the confidence of the people, where he will render essential services, and which will particularly oblige him who has the honor to be
Your Excellency's Secy
S. Huntington Esq.

Presid. in Cong^{rs}.
RW 784

Cha! Town October 24th 1779

Dear Sir,

I have been honored wth your favors in behalf of y^r board of War of y^r 3^d & 4th of Septem^r.

As early as I can find a suitable man to take y^r appointment of forming of hides — I will fill up the commission, and send you the dates &c.

I am happy to know that the articles wrote for are coming on, and hope they will arrive soon — but am sorry that I am

82) contrained from the ill success of the Vessels sent by the Agent to y^e West Indies for Stores, to request a supply agreeable to the enclosed list — Would it not be best, and a saving on the whole to the Continent to have the Agents here instructed to import such articles for the use of this department as the commanding Officer for the time being should find necessary? For the risque from y^e West Indies, here, is not greater than from Philad.^a to this place —

If troops are sent here, and by water as I think they will be, — The articles wanted may come by the same conveyance — for the news here I beg leave to refer you to Dr. Hotten — I have the honor to be Dear Col. Pickens — Board of War

Chas^r Town October 24. 1779

Gentlemen,

I did myself the honor to address you on the 22^d by Major Clarkson — I gladly embrace this opportunity by Col^l Laurens, who is kind enough to repair to Philad.^a, and to Gen^l Washington's Head Quarters to represent the peculiar and distressed situation of these y^e States, to solicit further reinforcements, and aid in forwarding such as shall be ordered —

That a respectable force of disciplined troops are necessary here, and probably will be more so, is too evident to be questioned, if we mean to secure these States; when we consider the advantages, which would result to Britain on her possessing them and the disadvantages to the United States — Her policy must point to her the necessity, and importance of

83) subjugating them - for hereby she will secure her trade in general, a supply of lumber and provision for the West India Islands - from the want of which they now labour under many embarrassments, - hereby she will secure to herself many valuable harbours on the shores of the Continent contiguous to her Islands, where she can secure her fleets sent for the protection of her own trade, and for the annoyance of her enemies - hereby she will receive a great acquisition of territory and strength, for the disaffected will readily engage in her cause, the Indians will be spirited, easily supplied, and without difficulty retained in her service - They will open to themselves a communication, through the lakes, with Canada, and, by the numerous tribes of savages on our inland frontiers, keep them constantly in war, destroy the growth, happiness, and prosperity, if not depopulate them - In the same proportion as they acquire strength we are debilitated - besides, if the Southern States are lost, we have not only their proportion of the common debt thrown on the other States, who are now groaning under an idea of the weight of their own burthen; but it will give a fatal wound to our paper currency, and probably add more to the depreciation of it than any thing which has already happened - for the expectation that it will in some future day be redeemed stamps it wth value, as this is lessened the value of it must decrease - If the enemy are permitted to enjoy the extremes of the United States, from which they can wth ease enlarge their own limits, and circumscribe ours, we shall soon be in the most unhappy situation - encircled by

84) by land, and blocked up by sea, what more would they have to do, than to keep Garrison in the middle states, ruin their trade, and then a generous one forward and Edward — Besides the advantages which would accrue to the Enemy by enjoying these States, which are, I think, sufficient inducements to attempt a subjugation of them they will be encouraged also to the measure by considering wth what little expence and hazard they could retain them — their rear is covered by their friends, their right by their marine, and their left by the unaffected and the Indians — indeed if this Town was in their possession, from the natural strength of it, they commanding at sea, all the force we could bring against them would be insufficient to regain it — There are some among the many reasons which induce me to believe that the enemy will reinforce their troops already in this quarter, and attempt to extend, and secure their conquests, and that it is of the first importance to the safety and well being, if not the being, of the United States effectually to counteract their designs — such are the arguments, Gent^{ls}, which remind us of our interest — there are others, which more immediately affect our feelings — where shall we find an asylum for those who have hitherto lived in affluence and plenty, and who, by their exertions in the cause of their country, are become peculiarly exposed to the common foe? — Shall we leave them the cruel alternative only of suffering the ignominious insult,

85) of an unfeeling enemy, and wearing at last those chains which they have at so much hazard sought to shun^{or} fore- going their former happiness, and reduced to a situation little short of beggary and want, seek shelter in some neighbouring State? — honour and humanity both forbid it.

The necessity of sending troops will further appear when it is considered, that the enemy have in this quarter about Three thousand men, that they expect a large addition to that number — that the whole of our force of Continental troops, now in this State is short of 1000 men, that 150 more may be expected from N.^o Carolina and about 800 from Virginia w.th Genl. Scott, the whole less than 2000 — what militia N. Carolina will send is yet uncertain — most of those, which can be drawn out in this State, will be needed in the back parts of the Country to restrain the unfriendly and the savages, — To convince the people here that Congress has their safety at heart, and that they will support them, and discourage every idea that they are to make terms for themselves is of the utmost importance also —

I cannot help felicitating myself in the belief that troops may be spared from the N.^o ward, as the campaign there must be near over, and as the return of General Sullivan may be shortly expected, and that they will be sent, especially as the objections of a long march &c., formerly made, are now removed — for part of Count D'Estaing's fleet being in Chesapeake Bay, which, with our frigates, will be a sufficient cover to their passage by water, and will give us speedy and instant reinforcements —

If the troops come by water,

86) I have to request that the Board of war, be directed to send on wth them the articles mentioned in the enclosed list, a duplicate I have sent to them, for we have failed in our attempt, to get them from the West Indies, some of the vessels were taken, and others came to a bad market — for a ^{more} minute state of matters in this department, and for a fuller representation of the miseries which await us, without prompt reinforcements. — I beg leave to refer you to Col. Laurens, from whose knowledge in war, and critical observation, you may expect the most perfect intelligence — I have the honor to be &c.

Wm. H. Laurens Esq.

and the Gent^l of y^e Committee of correspondence.

R 2983 (5)

Charl Town October 24. 1779

My Dear General,

I have had y^e honor of your favor of the 30th July — We had information on the 3^d of Septem^r. that Count D'Estaing was wth his fleet off Savannah, and on the 4th he sent a confidential officer on shore to announce his designs, and agree upon some mode of cooperating — It was agreed that he should on y^e 11th land 3000 troops at Beulah 10 miles from Savannah — and that on the same day we would cross the Savannah wth 1000 men — y^e whole of our little force — a junction was formed on the 16th after reconnoitering the enemies lines, and finding them well covered, and that they intended to support themselves as long as possible — it was agreed to land some cannon and mortars, and try their effects.

R 2983 (1)

87) We took post in the front of the Town w^t g^t principal
of both armies, within less than a mile — Ground was
broken on the 23^d within about 400 yards of their lines —
on the 5th Oct^r our batteries were opened, 33 cannon, & 9 mortars
the cannonade & bombardment was continued, w^t some
intervals untill the 8th without effecting the desired
purpose of causing a surrender — the time being now
long elapsed, which the Court had assigned for this
expedition, and being informed by his Engineers that
approaches must be made, and that it would ne-
cessarily expend much time, which he could not
spare, we were then reduced to the alternative of
raising the siege immediately, and quitting all thoughts
of conquest, or attempting it by storm, which was
agreed on — the attack was made in the morning
of the 9th — 500 men were ordered to the enemies left,
our troops were to sally from our works, while the
columns were to attack their right — We failed in
the attempt — for detail I beg leave to refer your
Excellency to Col. Laurens, who commanded our
light troops, which preceded our Columns — his
brave and intrepid conduct on all occasions demands
the thanks of his Country — mine he has most
cordially — He waits on your Excellency to solicit
further reinforcements — and will lay before you
the absolute necessity of the measure

I have the honor to be
D^r General &c

His Excellency
Gen^l. Washington.

88)
Dear Sir,

Charl Town October 27 1779

In my last, which I did myself the honor to address your Board - I enclosed a mem^o. of sundry stores wanted in this department, among them a quantity of powder - Since, on examining y^r magazines, I find we have on hand a larger quantity than I expected from the returns made - so that one half of the quantity will probably do at present - notwithstanding, if the whole can be conveniently sent, we shall be happy to receive it - I have the honor to be D^r Sir &c.

Col. Pickering
RW 288

Charl Town October 31st 1779

Sir, I recd y^r enclosed a few days since from Colonel Bedaulx, and his desire, that I would recommend to Congress a compliance wth y^r prayer of his petition

I do not know whether any thing similar has been done by them, or whether they can wth propriety grant a request of the kind - If they can, with propriety grant a request of the kind - if they can I think this Gentleman very deserving of y^r indulgence

As the legion commanded by the late Count Pulaski, is much reduced - the time for which many of his men engaged, expired last month, and they have left the service, and as it cannot be recruited - I think it would be for the good of the service to have it incorporated wth some other Corps - I have the honor to be &c.

His Excy

Sam^l. Huntington Esq.
RW 290

89) Dear Colonel,

Chas. Town Novem. 1. 1779

I had last evening the honor of your favor of the 30th ultimo — I supposed my orders were misunderstood or that you had not seen them — for I had not an idea that you would have moved the troops contrary to my wish, much less against my instructions.

(You are sensible fit, that the State undertook to clothe their troops — they are now making every exertion for that purpose — You will please to order down all your men, excepting enough to man the three pieces, now in camp, — they are needed here and they will be in the way of receiving their clothes.

I cannot comply wth Major Kinzie's request. I have not the power either of discharging officers, or appointing new ones — agreeable to the return made to me, there are less than 20 infantry in the Legion — these I have ordered to be clothed and do duty with the first regiment at Fort Moultrie — The Major being the senior officer, commands of course the Dragoons — there are so few of them that Gouppon Longuep will incorporate them wth some other corps — however, matters wth respect to the Legion, will remain on its' present footing until I have the direction of Longuep —

I never expected much good from your late law —

When Major Vanderhout joins camp, and your troops are ready to march — you will if agreeable to you, march wth them —

Col. Beckman

I have the honor to be, &c

Chas. Town Novem. 1st 1779

Mr. I was honored wth your favor of the 22^d ultimo the last evening — before I rec^d it, I had applied to Col. Harris for Sir James Wright's parole, the circumstances of his capture, &c in order to send wth a letter of mine by Major Hyne, who goes tomorrow to Savannah, in order to negotiate a full exchange of all G^o. prisoners now in the hands of Gen^l. Prevost — To have Gen^l. Elbert liberated, will claim my particular attention

It is impossible for me to say what reinforcements the enemy may rec^e, and I am much at a loss how ample ours will be — but I have an assurance that Congress will exert its power in favor of these States, and such is the present appearance of things that I do not see what any Gen^l would plead in his own justification, if he should now leave the State —

I wish some method could be adopted to settle the ~~Militia~~ militia pay rolls — If I could know the time they have really been in service I would order payment — I expect Gen^l. McIntosh will be up in a few days — I shall recommend this matter also to him I saw so much evil while we were before Savannah by the Militia not considering themselves under ~~a~~ controul, — that in future I expect such of them as are needed, will be called forth by the Civil authority of the State for a time limited, and while they are not acting wth Contin^t. troops that they, agreeable to G^o. resolves of Congress, are under the same Articles of War, as are provided for G^o. government, the Contin^t. troops — none but such shall I think my G^o. be obliged to pay — I am &c

I Wm^l Esq.

(91)

Char. Town Novem. 1.st 1779

Dear Sir,

I am informed that among the late arrivals of vessels, shut for cloathing, not one has brought blankets — The Men are very destitute, and suffer greatly from the want of them — One thousand are now wanted — more will be required soon — 1500 at least — If your Excellency can give any aid to the ^{Stothin} General, in procuring them, it will be rendering the most essential service to the army — and much oblige
Your Excy's most obed.
Governor Rutledge
RW 995

Char. Town October 27. 1779

Dear Sir,

23.^d and 25.th — I have been honoured w.th your favours of 23.^d and 25.th — I am sorry that the army left Dubly's ferry before the corn meal was removed, as it is contrary to my expectations, as well as against my instructions, to Col. Thomson — in them I say "that after y.^e sick and stores are removed, then the army are to take post at Sheldon" — every attention must be now paid to it, if it is not already removed — Col. Marion's permission to leave camp, has put it out of my power to grant your request — but as soon as he, and the new made Majors return to it — you may come to Town — before that, I cannot assent to it consistent w.th the good of the service, and the safety of the army — I shall apply to the Governor to keep up a strong Post of militia in the vicinity of your camp — I will order up the Dragoons

92) now in Town, the Infantry must be clothed before
they can join you — If Mr. Budd can be per-
mitted to ~~come~~ to Town in justice to other officers
it would be very agreeable to me

Col. Beckman

I am Dear Sir &c

RW 787 (2)
Dear Sir,

Chas. Town Nov^r. 1. 1779

In my letter to you of the 18. of July, I
mentioned if a Director of the flying Hospital was to
be appointed, I wished Dr. Flag might be thought on
for that place — since I find that y^r rank will
interfere w^t y^r rank of Officers in the Standing Hospitals
which I have ever wished might be kept entire, as well
to support order and regularity, as because those Gent^l
an, as I expressed to you before, Men of character &
worth, and who have been in service from the com-
-mencement of the War: and this I regard Dr. Flag
and would be glad to render him any service in
my power — yet I never wished to do it at the
expense of others — therefore, if the appointment
is not made, I wish the matter might be suspended
if it interferes w^t y^r rank of the other Gent^l, until
there is a Gen^l settlement of this Hospital

Wm. Shippen jun^r. Esq. I am D^r Sir.

Director of the
Gen^l Hospital

RW 792

Charl Town Novem^r 2^d 1779

Sir,

I have applied to the Governor for some of your Militia to be kept on duty in aid to the Fortified troops at Sheldon — when they arrive, I must leave the posting of them to you, and the Officer commanding at Sheldon

I am sorry that the pilots did not come off sooner — I hope, however, that they will be in time — accept my thanks for your attention to this matter —

Your opinion of the necessity of a party of Horse being kept near y^e Savannah, to patrol its bank, is well founded and I think, if carried into execution, will be productive of good — I am Sir, wth great esteem &c
Colonel Garden

RW 997

Charl Town Novem^r 3^d 1779

Sir,

I had the honor of your Excellency's letter of the 1st of August by Major Byrne, whose commission to Savannah was to negotiate an equitable exchange of prisoners — but was not then so happy as to effect it. He now calls on the same business, and as some of the objections to this desirable object are removed and others, I think, he will have in his power to obviate — I flatter myself that a negotiation, in favor of which humanity so fully decides — and which will be productive of mutual good to the Officers and troops of his Britannick Majesty as to those of America, that nothing will prevent its being completed —

RW 998 (1)

I am

enclosed the copy of a letter from Lieut. Col.
Harris, and an extract of one from John Wrenat
relative to His Excellency Sir James Wright.
As they relate to a transaction, which happened
long before I came into this department, I can know
nothing of the matter but what I see from others.
From these papers, it appears that His Excellency
acknowledged himself a prisoner, and gave his
parole to remain within the Town of Savannah,
until otherwise ordered by Congress — and that he
left it soon after without such order, and, it is
said, he has never been discharged from that ob-
ligation — hence I am led to expect Col. Elbert
in exchange for him — I have the honor to be Dear
His Excellency Major Genl. Prevost

RW 798(2)

Chas. Town Room: S. 1779

Dear Colonel,

I have been honored wth your favor of
the 24th ultimo by Lieut. Hogg —

A number of the articles sent
for will be forwarded — others must be postponed for
a few days — I expect the arrival of our vessels hourly
by then you will I trust get better articles, and they
will be much cheaper to y^r. United States than can
be had in Town at present — a quantity of clothing
also is sent for, and expected at the same
time — I hope the stock will be so ample as to

95) supply you all — you will at least have them at
the cost and charges — Hospital stores will be sent you
Col. Wyllie will soon be w^t you w^t a number of ne-
cessary stores — he, I think, will do his duty — If the
Commissaries neglect theirs they must account for
their neglect — I recd a letter from Lt Col. H. H. H.
in which, he mentions y^r necessity of his returning for
a short time to Virginia — The field officer now
w^t y^r Regiment can better judge whether he can be
spared without injury to the service than I can
being unacquainted w^t y^r present state of affairs.

I therefore leave the matter to be settled
between you, and I shall be glad if he can be
indulged — I am D^r Col. Lee

Col. Parker

Charl Town 4. Novem. 1777

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 28th instants I recd a
few days since — I thank you very much
and I have ordered Col. Wyllie to meet them
under your direction —

The Clothing Genl has sent
up 330 pair of shoes in Col. Parker's baggage for
his and your use — you will divide them
according to your numbers and necessity —

I hope you will soon throw off
your fever, and that the service will permit
my seeing you in Charl Town, which event will
be agreeable to D^r Sir

Your most obed^t
Major Ameyon

Charl Town Novem^r 6th 1779

Dr Capt^m Bradford comes Doctor Young of the General Hospital in Providence, an assistant Surgeon there -
 and Mr. Tullum, and Capt^m James Newcomb taken on board the schooner Sally, Newcomb Master, from Providence captured on this coast by one of our armed vessels - they wish to go to N. York - Capt^m Hatch comes wth them and a letter was taken, and carried into Providence - gave his parole then to have a Man of his rank exchanged for him - Mr. Tullum is considered as so exchanged and Capt^m Newcomb for Capt^m Tucker of his place - and Dr Young has given his parole that he will not act until he has notice in N. York by Gen^l Prevost, that a Gen^l of his rank now a prisoner in Sawannah is liberated by him - so that he receives information from us that Gen^l Prevost will not exchange him, and an Officer of ours is sent out of N. York for him - They will remain on board the vessel until they have the permission to land - They would be glad to be on their way to N. York as soon as possible -

I am sir,

Your most obed. Serv.

The Commanding Officer
 of the Continental Troops
 Philadelphia

Chas. Town Museum. 8th 1779

My Dear General,

I had the honor of your very obliging
favor of 28th Sept^r the last evening — I wish it was in
my power to give you such an account of matters in
this Department as would afford you some satisfaction
in y^r perusal — but unfortunately for me, and perhaps it
may soon be more so for the public, I cannot do it —
— We remain unsupported by troops, unsupplied wth
many essential articles, and uncovered wth work — and
what adds to y^r unhappiness, is the little prospect that
our affairs will speedily be in a better channel —
for, wth regard to troops, Gen^l Scott is not arrived, nor
do I know when he may be expected — for I have
not had a line from him since he was ordered this
way — but from the best information I can obtain
if he comes at last he has not more than 400 men
now fit for duty — that is all we are encouraged to
expect from Virginia, which wth those here from that
State will amount to between six and seven hundred
— from N^o Carolina we have about 150 Continentals
more may not be expected from thence excepting
militia — what number of those may be put is un-
certain, and indeed unless they serve for a longer
time than the last war three months from the time
they entered this State, a time too short either to
learn the duties or be cured to the fatigues of the
Camp / little may be expected from them — with
regard to this State, they have not in their five
regiments 700 men fit for duty, and we have no
reason to expect that their numbers will be much
augmented considering the aversion the people have

98) for the service here, or that any permanent force will
be brought to them into the field — for, after solemn debate
in the House of Assembly, they resolved that the Militia should
not be draughted to fill up the Continental battalions,
and that the Militia when in y.^d field should not be
under the Continent. articles of war, and refused on y.^e
recommendation of Congress to raise any black corps.
The Georgia battalions do not amount to 100 men
in whole — they are not in a capacity to keep that
number up for they have no legislative power in the
State — the Militia therefore are not properly organised or
can be — they come out ~~at~~ their own option and return
at their discretion — Thus, ⁱⁿ you see the state of
our force, and our expectations — We are very deficient
in many necessary articles, such as ammunition, tent
cloth, blankets, clothes &c. — this arises in a great measure
from a large prop. of the Regts. being taken, which were
sent out hence for the public, and from others coming to
a bad market — This town, which is y.^e magazine of
the State, and which for that and many reasons claims
the attention of the enemy, and to possess themselves of
which is among their first objects, is in a very defence-
less situation — the works about it, begun, are not
finished, many more are necessary to be constructed; but
from the want of Negroes / the only labourers in this
country / the matter is neglected — they have been sent
for into the country — but from some defect in y.^e law,
they are not brought in — Fort Moultrie on Sullivan
Island, six miles from the town, supposed to be the Key of
the harbour, is in a ~~very~~ decayed state, without a dis-
patch or abbat to it — the repairs of that also is
delayed from the same cause — Two floating batteries
have been recommended to cover the bar, and they

39 would undoubtedly answer the most valuable purpose as
no heavy ship can come over it unless they take out
their guns, or they are so much careened as that they
cannot work them — these also, tho' indispensably necessary to
the safety of the harbour, are unprovided — By this
short state of affairs, you will see what little ex-
pectation there is that we shall be able to make any
considerable defence, in case any thing serious is
attempted here by the enemy — Besides if they should
attack this town — I think, they will attempt to send
us in the back parts of the country, and keep these
people at home — indeed there has been a late attempt
to seize our magazines at Gb. — and at Camden — a very
considerable number of men got in arms — but their
designs were fortunately discovered, and many of them
are taken — yet the combination is alarming, and
requires particular attention, considering what great
prop^s of the back inhabitants of these States are un-
friendly and indifferent to y^r cause.

I have frequently, and faithfully, I think,
represented these matters to Congress and to this State,
and have endeavoured to convince them by every
argument in my power that this State was surely
an Object which claimed y^r attention of Britain, and
policy, as it would affect us, and interest would
stimulate her to attempt the subjugation of it,
— We have about one thousand Continental troops
in this State and at Augusta in Georgia — the
Virginia Dragoons and Infantry are at Augusta
they were sent there on our retreat from before
Savannah, in order to give confidence to the
inhabitants and the militia of the country, and
to be some check on the unfriendly & y^e Indians.

The 2^d, 3^d and 5th of Carolina Battalions and part of
the militia are at Sheldon opposite Port Royal ferry, and
between 30 & 40 miles from the Savannah as a cover to the
Country while the people take in their crops and remove
their stock, which should be done immediately — The 1st
and 6th battalions are at Fort Moultrie, and the War-
troops in this town — as soon as it shall become
necessary, I mean to collect y^e continent troops to a point
and leave the well affected militia to cover the back
part of y^e country — they will render more service there
than in Europe — The militia in the vicinity of C Town
will be called in to its aid — I have requested the
State to provide for some place properly supplied
wth provisions as an asylum for the aged, the infirm,
the women and children that in case of a siege we
may have no up to mouths in town, or any circum-
stance which should induce a more early surrender,
or add to y^e absolutely necessary distresses of a siege —

I think this town might be defended against
a very formidable attack, if all was done for its
security, which ought to be done — for it is situated on
a peninsula — our lines in the rear of it are about half
a mile in length, and will soon have in front of them
at y^e distance of a musquet shot a fosse in which
y^e water will be retained 6 or 7 feet deep by dams, one
towards Cooper, and the other towards Ashley river — this
completed, and y^e necessary works about the town
finished, and the floating batteries provided — we should
not be easily impetted wth a proper Garrison —

Y^r Excellency

Sam^l Lee

Gen^l Washington

Chal Swan Novem^r 12. 1779

RW 80d

RW 80d

21

RW 8042

RW 874.9

22 257(0)

Coal Creek Nov. 25. 1879

Ch. Johnson

and

Sept. 5. 1861.

AW 508 2

(165) Dear Sir Chas. Fox 26 1179

I have a few days since a letter from
Mr. Chapman, which he informs me that some
of the principal planters have held a meeting, and
agreed that they will not sell their own property
than 10 dollars of capital and then were made from
9 to 30 pounds - a great contribution in money
and also some to the dangerous supply of
cotton. The way to form plan that I can
suggested at 1/2 of expense. The plan is
by this way meeting a committee that they have
asked for the way for the 10 dollar capital
and for - I hope you would speak to Graham
in the matter, and give them the right of
which it is recommended to the fact to be
proceeding the necessary articles for the same
regulating the prices. &c.

I hope to make some other note for you
of the state of your Department and perhaps
account, and come to some to settle with the
French Capt. - I am Sir, &c.

Yr. Wm. Fox

Chas. Fox 26 1179

AW 809

Dear Sir

I have been looking at some of the
papers of the 11th of 1179. Every attention is paid
to clothing the troops - what is done is not
sufficient. Some papers are in the hands of
the French for clothing for 250 officers in one or two
companies it will be reduced - I am glad to hear
that your plan is agreeable, but that you
it probably will be done. I am sure it will
be of benefit to you. You will find the
the paper before and for the same - after that I
send a warrant for 10 pounds in form of your
matter, on which he will give a receipt and I think
you give credit for 11,300 dollars and of one, 10,000 and
sent by Ch. Fox - if you have not the plan, I
to know of it, and of course.

Chas. Fox 26 1179

Before you left I was
informed that the Presbyterian calling on the
ground of the church in the city on the 22nd of last
month had made a house - previous to
the meeting for the first time in town, and
since then the place, and altho' the place
have been removed, yet that is a good one
and the members do not come together - when
it was expected I should not for a few
days from it but out in a new place

10/11/42 The Governor has not ordered the officers to
convene the Board and that nothing is to be done
filing up your continental battalions, respecting the
military, and giving the black troops a kind of
proof and shelter. I do not think any thing more
to be done on this subject, and the Governor
which looks the threatening of a party out of power
as a figure in the eyes of the Negroes and
left the work before the time and is an object
which others are not prepared to see and are at
what on the line is probably more to be feared
it is said that there is a defect in the law for
calling the Negroes, and that it is not coercive enough
it cannot be mended until the Assembly meets -
^{floating battery}
~~Gardies~~ are not provided, or in short words, as
nothing for the reference of the War - I mention
this, that there is a party of people, and you will
not be surprised if all from the North and that without
it this country will probably be left - you mention
that North Carolina have three thousand men and are
- if we only judge from what has been said we are
not expected more than 1500 men, and considering the
short time they will remain after in the state, it is
time sufficient to learn that the other side are
more to the fatigue of the camp, the last of which
may be expected from them - though I am
opposed to the number of that state, and that
them equal to any who have not been in an
actual service -

I am my dear Sir
Yours affect. Servant
J. J. Jones

Chas Town Nov. 30. 1779

Major Hume is returned from Savannah
where he went to recruit a company of Riflemen
and probably effected the business - but in your case -
you are secured for the full strength, but Genl. Burch
wishes nothing in the matter - so that it must be
referred to the Superior - in my letter of this day to
you I have mentioned that I doubt but he will accept
of the property of your remaining in the country on
parole until a decision on this matter is had - if
you fail in this attempt, you will be under
my attention until accomplished - I do myself
propose to enclose you a list of all the officers
who have been lately exchanged - you
will find an officer or two exchanged out of their term
this was not from injury - but happened from their
being among placed in the Commissioners books
I am Sir

AW 814

Chas Town Decemr 1. 1779

The Military left in the apartment is
supposed to be the same as the receipt of 200
pounds from the State, for the use of the United
States the loan of two hundred thousand dollars, and
that it be paid to Mr. Rutledge Esq. Secretary of the
Governor Rutledge I am Sir

RW 815

Chas Town Decr 1. 1779

I am Sir honored with your favor of
the 27th ultimo - I shall particularly attend to the
State of Georgetown and Cat Island, and will order
the necessary stores as soon as possible - I have
also an order for the same, you will please

RW 816 (1)

(189) to give you receipt for them, and take them
from the office who commands the men to whom they
shall be delivered. I wish to know how many
shot and their prices in Georgetown and what
and how many rounds of grape, and what can
be had in Georgetown to furnish the men.

Colonel Mearns

AW 816(2)

I am, Sir, your obedient servant

Gentlemen

Charl Town Decem: 2. 1862

Nothing very particular has taken
place in this department since I did myself the
honor to address you on the 24 ultimo.

The small pox having some
time since broke out in this town (about the 12th inst)
occasioned the defection of the Negroes employed
on the public works — their apprehensions have
not yet subsided / although the infection seems
removed / and our works are consequently in a
very unfinished situation, and the state of this
town deplorable.

From the great demands on
our pay master, Mr Clay, beyond the funds he had
in his hands — I have been under the necessity
of requesting from the Governor and receiving the
loan of near a million of dollars, and a further
sum from the Commissioners of the Loan Office.

I hope some directions will be given to discharge
the Commissioners of the funds they shall advance
that money may be sent on for as that which we
borrowed of them may be returned to them.

I find by the resolve of Congress that 500
dollars only are to be paid by the 2^d Master to such
Officers / authorized to be in the field on horseback
shall have their horses killed in action — This, from
very high price of horses now, is by no means a con-
solation to the Officer. I cannot help mentioning this.

AW 818 (1)

Mr. [unclear] of a Captain of Artillery who left his
Artillery in action - he then borrowed one of another Genl.
who had that killed also - he is obliged to pay to the
Government for the horse - I wish to know whether the Dr. M^{rs}
can be satisfied in paying more than the 500 dollars -

The time for which many of
the Regular troops engaged to serve is expired, and
many have died - so that they have but about one
company left and a majority of Officers for four regiments,
who are in a very awkward situation without command -
I wish to know the sentiments of Congress on this matter
also - There are some Officers who belonged to the
Regiments of that State, and some light Artillery -

I am Dear Sir &c

The North

The Committee of Congress

AW 818 (2)

Charl Town Decem^r. 3. 1779

Dear Sir

The Court of enquiry appointed to investigate
the causes why there is such a deficiency of wood for
the army in this town have reported, partially, that
it is partly from the want of a suitable number
of boats, in which to transport it - You will
therefore as soon as possible endeavor to remove this
objection by supplying boats -

I am Dear Sir &c

Robert Haydon

December 3. 1779

Dear Sir

I had the pleasure of hearing a few days since
that the State of N^o Carolina had voted to raise
and send to this State 3000 of their Militia. I wish to
know when they may be expected, by whom they will
be commanded, what route or routes they will take
and how they are supplied with arms, accoutrements,
and camp utensils - A general exchange of prisoners
was lately taken place here - We have

(11) now, facing a few officers / now with the evening
hear that there are some in your State - for which an
officers will be given - we credited for them in the
Providence, where we are much indebted - or have credit
for them, and to be accounted for hereafter - I
shall be obliged by hearing from you on these
subjects - I am Dear Sir &c
Governor Caswell
RW 819 (2)

Sentences - ,
Charl Town Novem 27 1779

I am informed by Mr. Clay that you
have a sum of money in your hands belonging
to the United States, and that you are willing to
advance it for the Military department, provided
you can be assured that you can receive proper
vouchers for the same from Congress - that I
cannot promise absolutely - but assure you that
I will represent the matter to Congress, and the
necessity we are under for the money, and in
case I do not procure the necessary vouchers I
will order the money returned out of the military
chest, as soon as it shall be supplied -

Messrs Blaine, Parker & Libby, I am Dear Sir &c
Commr of the United States
War Office
RW 810

Charl Town Dec 4 1779

Sir,
some time since I represented to your Excellency
the necessity of cutting and removing the standing
wood between the lines of this Town and the
outer work near Strickland, as it would be a cover
to the enemy in case of a siege, and requested
permission to do it - I am now constrained to
RW 822 (1)

1779) to assist the army, as you have should, I think,
be left in completing this business — besides there are
some a number of waggons, which could be
employed in moving the wood, which might be
used by the soldiers, and would serve as fuel for them
and lessen the demand for that which is brought
to market and leave more ample supplies for
the inhabitants — I am D^r Sir, &c

Shuttlige

Chas Town Novem^r. 30. 1779

D^r Sir, I have recd your letter of the 17. instad
I hardly knew what answer to give you, as I
had called on the Clothier Gen^l. to supply the
troops with cloathing as fast as possible — had
frequently called for your pay rolls, and when
we were going S^oward, as they could not then be
made out I ordered out of the treasury a sum
paid to be equal to their pay to that time —
I do not know any thing respecting the regiment
books or where Capt^l. Gordon is — but as your
men are now to be mustered by that the rolls must
be sent out — From a representation that some of
your Men here were in a very naked state, if I
remember right, I ordered them to remain in Town
until they could be clothed —

Major Hyne is now
here I will give him your letter, and request
his attention to it — I am D^r Sir &c

Gen^l M^l. Henry

Char Town Decem: 7. 1779

Sir,

I had this day the honor of your favors of the 2^d & 4th. — Give me leave to congratulate the State of Georgia on her re-organisation, and you on being honoured with the chief Magistracy of that State — such is the present state of force, and such the information of the enemy's movements as to forbid my sending at present any troops into the upper part of the country, the security of which has ever claimed, and I trust will claim my particular attention —

I have now no voice in the disposition of the money in the hands of Mr. Hall, lodged there for the benefit of Georgia and to be paid by him to the Governor and executive Council thereof — he is out of Town, — as soon as he returns, and the money is ready, I will send an escort with it.

Will there not be an impropriety in raising more forts than can be manned at the time they shall be erected? for should there be — the enemy may avail themselves of our works — I am glad to hear that the state of your regiment has been taken up — One of infantry is, I think, as much as they can support and keep up with regard to the regiment of Horse ^{I have no doubt} I think it will be impossible for you to equip them properly. This state has not been able to equip 150 men in eight Months, nor half that number — it is now much more difficult than when they first attempted it.

I am Sir &c

Governor Walton

114.)

Charl Town Decem^r 8. 1779

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 30th ultimo I received yesterday — The Waggon, left at Burke's Gal, and Brian's Creek appraised in Georgia currency — I think in that they should be paid for — or, if in continental bills, at the price they were justly worth in those bills — When I have ordered out men as Horsemen, and their horses have been lost I think they must be paid for — With regard to the Waggon Horses, the rule you adopt at Purisburgh, I think was a good one — I will ask your friend Drayton to send you the late resolves of Congress — some of the articles you mention will be ordered to you in the returning Waggon — some of them we have not on hand — Some clothing for your Waggoners I will order — Colonel Parker knows what accounts you ought to pay — I think he would not offer you one which does not fall within the line of your duty to discharge — Do not forget to come, or send, by some person who can settle them, the French accounts — I am D^r for you

Colonel Mitty

RW 825

Charl Town Dec^r 11. 1779

Sir,

The prisoners which were here are exchanged I suppose — I suspect those you have w^t you are exchanged also — if you will send the names of them I can ascertain the matter — If they are not exchanged I will send them across the river on parole — you will therefore as much as possible keep them from obtaining a knowledge

RW 826

115) of your strength, or of our designs - it would be well before they leave you to give out that you expect a large reinforcement - this you can do very justly, for one is expected - the first division I have reason to believe is now in this state -

I am informed that we are very short in the article of cartridge paper - I wish however that you would, when you know of an opportunity of its coming safely to you, write for it to Col^l Drayton - Six hog heads of rum are now on the road for your Camp, or at least six were ordered, and the waggons are gone - you will please to instruct your commissary of Issues to apply in time to Mr Rulledge commissary Gen^l of Purchases for a further supply - as probably you may remain for some time on the same ground you will direct the men to be very attentive to their huts and let them be as comfortable as possible -

There is now cloth enough for Jackets and overalls for all the troops, and I believe coats also, but Taylors are wanted - you will therefore please to send down under the care of a good subⁿ all the Taylors you have in camp, if they do not exceed twenty -

I am Sir

Your most obed^t Serv^t

Colonel Mavor

Chas. Fort Decem^r 10 1779

Dear Sir,

The Committee appointed to investigate the causes why there were such deficiencies of wood in this town for the army, reported partially, a few days since, that one of the causes arose from the want of boats to transport it - On their report I ordered the D^r M^r to procure them, if possible,

116) - he has agreed for two, but has not money to pay
for them, and unless he can procure it soon, he cannot
have the vessels - I am therefore under the necessity
of requesting a further sum from your State - and
that one hundred thousand dollars be paid into the
hands of Colonel Drayton D^r. J^r M^r. Gen^l, and the
United States charged with it -

His Excellency
Governor Rutledge

I am Sir &c.

Dear Sir,

Char. Town Decem^r 11. 1779

Upon further reflection, and examination
of the plan of the country, I have, in some degree, altered
my opinion with respect to halting the North Carolina
Militia at Nelson's ferry, and am induced to believe
that some post below Edisto Mills on the east side
of the river would be preferable - as from the Mills
we could obtain Stabs, and Boards, for building huts
for the men - there is near to them a quantity
of Corn which might be collected and ground for
them - they could there have their rice ground, wh^{ch}
they much prefer, as they are fond of a cake made
of rice flour, they could be easily supplied wth forage
from the round O^{aks}, besides, if they should be called S^o water
or into the Country they could with facility be thrown
across Edisto at the Mills, and, if they should be ordered
hence, there is no river to impede their march -

I have enclosed a copy of the
Order I have minuted for the Officer commanding
the Main Guard, which the Continent troops are to
relieve tomorrow morning, - as they are rather to act
in the civil line, as Watchmen, than as a Military
Guard, I beg, if I have omitted any thing, which
the peace, order, and safety of the town requires to
be added, that your Excellency will mention it,

or

117) if in any thing I have gone too far, I shall be equally
obliged to you for your observations upon it
His Excellency
Governor Rutledge
RW 828(2)

Charl Town Decem: 11. 1779

Sir,

I had the honor of your favor of the 7th the last evening — By the next vessel you may expect a further supply of stores, from the want of which in case of an attack you must greatly suffer — I spoke to the Governor last night on the necessity of calling in some Regiments to finish the work. I expect, by this opportunity, you will receive his sentiments on the matter — I hope, and trust it will not be longer delayed —

Colonel Henriot
RW 829

I am Sir, with great esteem &c

Sir,

Charl Town Dec: 13. 1779

Captⁿ Millegan arrived the night before last from the Savannah, which place he left the 4th — he informs that, about the 20th ultimo, there were in the port 6, 74 gun ships, 9 frigates, together with a great number of small armed vessels and transports — he also adds that the Governor had, previous to his departure, received information by a packet that the troops sent up the Mississippi had taken the British settlements — made 900 prisoners, among them the 16th regiment — Before he sailed the first Division had sailed for Pensacola, and the second were riding by one anchor, had embarked on board a number of troops; more were to embark to amount of 4000 — their destination is off Pensacola to join the first Division — I, by reason of the above

118) movement of the Spaniards, General Inyoft should
be induced to evacuate Savannah, it will be our
policy if possible, to tread on his heels - you will attempt
to get the best and most frequent intelligence from
Savannah, and on the information you receive,
you will remove the troops, or continue them in
place as the common interest shall make ne-
cessary - I am at Sir &c.

General M^cIntosh

AW 331 (2)

Charl Town December 13th 1779

Sir. By Captain Millegan, who returned from the
Savannah the night before last, which place he
left the 11th. I am informed that on his arrival about
the 10th ultimo there were in that port 6, 74 gun ships,
9 frigates, and a very large number of small
armed vessels ^{& transports} in three divisions - that while he was
there the Governor rec^d a packet informing him
that the troops put up the Mississippi, had taken
the British settlements there, and made nine hundred
prisoners, among them the 16th Regiment - That
the first division sailed before him for Pensacola,
that the second division, when he came out, were
riding by a single anchor, waiting for orders; they
were to receive on board four thousand men - part
of them were embarked, and were to join the others
off Pensacola - as those movements may, in their
consequences, be so exceedingly interesting to your
State - I think it necessary to send this by two
light Horsemen - If on this information, the enemy
should think of considerably reinforcing St. Augustine
and Pensacola - They must give up Georgia - in
which attempt I hope we shall have it in our
power to tread on their heels -

I am Sir &c

Governor Watter

AW 332

119

Charlestown Decem. 13. 1779

Yours of the 9th is before me - on the contents
 I would observe that the four prisoners of war ap-
 prehended have been duly exchanged - you will therefore
 order them across the Savannah to join their Corps
 as those, who wished for a flag, are inhabitants of
 this State, I referred the matter to the Governor, he will
 not permit them to go to Savannah - I have
 called on Mr. Rutledge to supply you with a new Wagon
 Master - if Mr. Bone should return you will arrest
 and have him tried, unless he has just excuse for
 his absence as will satisfy you - You will appoint
 a General Court Martial to sit immediately for the
 trial of all such prisoners as shall be brought before
 it - shoes are ordered on, and the troops to be
 to be first clothed - you will endeavor to
 secure the french deserters, if in camp, named in
 the enclos^{ure} list, and send them to town
 Col. Marion I am Sir &c

RW 833

Dear Sir,

Char. Town Dec. 15. 1779

I have had the honor of your kind yours
 of the 9th - I would have sent the money, which
 you have advanced for the Continent - but the pay
 Master is out of town, and I cannot obtain it - I
 wish you would desire your next Messenger to
 call for it -

I have had late accounts from
 Savannah, and learn that the 60th regiment is
 removed, and probably gone Southward - I have
 no information that the enemy have it in
 idea to take post at Ebenezer, saving what

RW 834 C

120) I read from you — I think you will make an advantage of your "Noted Offender" — We have what we call certain information that the Spaniards have been up the Mississippi, and taken the English settlements there — and nine hundred prisoners — and that wth a strong marine and land force they are now gone against Pensacola — If on this information Gen^l. Prevost should think of reinforcing that post and St. Augustine he cannot, in my opinion, with his present forces, think of holding Georgia — If he should attempt to leave it, I hope we shall have it in our power to tread on his heels —

By my last letter from Philad^a I think we may soon expect the enemy here — Congress are so fully persuaded of the danger that they have ordered us three frigates, and a reinforcement from the Main Army — Pray write me frequently — I shall be happy to hear from you —

General Williamson

Sam^l D^r Sir J^r &c

Chas^l Town Dec^r 15. 1779

Sir, By the last information I have from Congress the enemy may be soon expected in this State — much sooner than reinforcements from the main army can possibly arrive — our safety therefore much depends on your speedy arrival wth y^r troops under your command — every obstacle to the marching of them will be by your State, I hope, removed — Overall, waistcoats and shoes can be supplied here — I hope the men will be prevailed on to leave your State, and that they will not by a punctilious adherence to what the State promised them put it out of their power to render as essential services to their Country as ever was in the power of any troops to render —

General Scott

Sam^l D^r Sir J^r &c

(21) Dear Sir, Chat Town Decr 15. 1779

I am just informed that you are writing to General Williamson - I suspect the fear that he may have your order to join the late McIntosh, if called, with a Body of Militia in case information should be received by him that the enemy are either attempting to leave Georgia and that something clever might probably be done on their rear, or are making any movements which may endanger the safety of this State or that of Georgia I am D. Sir, &c

Governor Rutledge

RW 836

Chat Town Decr 16. 1779

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 5th I recd the 14th. The overalls and shoes, which you sent for, are sent off for you - at present the men cannot have any other clothing unless waistcoats - for Mr. Dart has sent any cloth in store for coats - Did not you people receive one year's clothing when they left Virginia? - clothing for the officers would have been sent - but probably is not to be had in this town, as you will be informed by Col. Keth, who is attempting to purchase for his regiment, and as soon as possible will get for yourself - I now very soon expect some on Continental account - your Officers shall be supplied immediately on its arrival - They to refer you to Mr. McIntosh for money -

Colonel Parker

RW 837

I am D. Sir, &c

D. Sir,

Chat Town Decr 16. 1779

Your favor of the 5th I have recd, and have ordered you your prop^o of the blankets on hand and 50 pr. of shoes - There are a number of supernumerary officers in y^e Georgia Corps, who I have no doubt would gladly join you, and do the duty of Dr. M^r and for M^r. If you cannot obtain them this way, you must appoint them from your own Corps, agreeable to the resolve of Congress. I am D. Sir &c

Major Jameson

RW 838

122) Dear Sir, Chas. Town December 15. 1779.

In the last information I have from Congress the enemy may soon be expected in this State, and much sooner than the reinforcements ordered from the Main Army can arrive — On the continued exertions of your State, not only depends its own safety, and happiness, but the safety and happiness of this, and of Georgia also — I cannot help urging, therefore, that the full number of troops voted by you, be marched with the greatest dispatch — for, if we can cover the land side of this town — I hope we shall be safe — for Congress have ordered to our assistance three frigates — those, with the four already in the harbour, I think will pretty well preserve it from insult — If the enemy really mean to attempt this town — they have no doubt instructed their emissaries in the back parts of the Country to assemble the unfriendly to march and co-operate with them on the sea coast — or make such a show of force as to keep the inhabitants at home for the security of their families — too watchful an eye cannot be kept over these people — and I beg leave to ask whether in case of a siege here — it would not be necessary to embody a number of men to suppress any attempts of this kind, and as a further support to us, if needed, to act as a reinforcement and to fall into the rear of the enemy and cut off their supplies —

Governor Salwell
RW 833a.

Sam. D. Jr. Secy

Dear Sir,

Chas. Town Decr. 18. 1779

I had yesterday the honor of your favor of the 11th, which I read wth a mixture of astonishment and grief — must your State always be torn wth intestine divisions, as well as plundered and distressed by a foreign enemy? — I flatter myself that your government had been new organized
RW 840(1)

123) agreeable to your constitution, and that the un-
happy funds, which have too long justified among
you, would have subsided, and all parties have met in
the same field, common sense, but it seems the en-
joyment of this blessing might be delayed until some
future day. May it soon arrive, and every cloud
which now hangs over you be dispelled, and the State
enjoy uninterrupted the sunshine of peace, plenty, and
unanimity, - with every favor necessary for their
best happiness. — You mention that there are
two Councils now existing in Augusta, and with my
opinion to which you should apply, in case of necessity,
for assistance. From what I hear, you cannot apply
to one without giving umbrage to the other - and your
doing it may widen the breach, already running, and
too serious not to demand every attention to repair
it — As neither of them will be implicitly obeyed
by the people, (without which you can expect little
good from the application) I think you had better
not apply to either of them, and risk the in-
conveniences thereof for the present. I enclose
you some resolves of Congress, which may be of use
to you — One mentions the constituting your
regiment — I wish you would think of a mode
how it can be done wth great satisfaction to
the Brigade —

The Governor of this State has given
Genl. Walton orders to join you, on your call, with
his Militia, in case the enemy on the late
Pensacola news should think of going that way
and an oppy should offer to you of heading on
their heels, or, if they should be making any offensive
movements against this State or the State of Georgia.

By my last letters from Congress it appears
that they have hardly a doubt but the expedition
preparing in New York is designed against

that the enemy will be reinforced
in Georgia before reinforcements, which have been ordered
from the main army can arrive here. It is my
opinion if the enemy again invade this town, that
previous to this they will have emissaries in the back
parts of these States to stimulate the unfriendly
and Indian to acts of hostilities - therefore too
watchful an eye cannot be kept over these incen-
daries, or too much pains taken to prevent the
baneful effects of their influence - The articles
you sent for are not in store - I expect them soon -
General McIntosh Saml. Dr. in Sea

R.W. 840(3)

Gentlemen

Charl. Town Decemr. 19. 1779

I recd your letter of the 12th, the 14th inst -
I always wrote Congress, when I thought either the good of the
service or the interest of these States made it necessary.

The arrival of the Frigate is an event
which gives great satisfaction to the people here - for,
with the main men, considering the difficulty of passing
this bar, the harbour will probably be free from insult,
and the importation of supplies in a good measure secured.
Not less important will be the arrival of the forces ordered
from Virginia and Maryland - for, as I mentioned in my
last, the town is uninclosed by works, and we have no ex-
pectation that it will soon be in a better state - what
with the rumour of the small pox, and the defect of the law,
those Negroes we had, left the works, and others cannot be
brought in - Few Militia can be expected from this State
in case of a siege - for I think there cannot be a doubt
but that the enemy, while they attempt our sea coast,
will have their emissaries in the ^{back} parts of the country to
stimulate the unfriendly and the Indians to acts of hostilities -
their baneful influence must be guarded against, which
will oblige us to keep many of the Militia in the upper
parts of the State - By the last accounts from Savannah
we learn that the enemy are quiet, and for the sake of an
airing they have encamped their troops at several plantations
at the distance of 10 miles round - the farthest from Town

R.W. 842(1)

125) is Abercorn — they are fitting joint transports for
sea —

Before this reaches you, you will doubtless hear
that the Spaniards have been up the Mississippi, and
possessed themselves of the English settlements on that river
and that they made nine hundred prisoners — That
about the beginning of this month they left Havana
wth a respectable fleet, and 4000 troops for Pensacola,
or St. Augustine, perhaps both — this the enemy affect
to disbelieve, and are not reinforcing State Troops —
but hourly expect the troops from New York —

The Militia ordered from N^o Carolina
are to serve for three months only after their arrival
within the limits of this State — is it not necessary,
therefore, that a requisition be immediately made by
Congress to that State, if it has not been done, that
troops who are now ordered should be relieved by a like
number of their militia before the expiration of that term
— there cannot, in my opinion, be one moment of
confident wth our safety — for this letter will not
probably be rec^d until the 10 of January, which will
bring it to February before the requisition of Congress,
if one should be made, can reach them — then
there are but fifty odd days to raise the men, and
march them 400 miles — The troops may at that
time be more wanted than at present, for, if from
the danger of passing Count D'Estaing's fleet in English
Bay, or from the inclemency of the season, they should
defer their attempt on this State until the spring —
it will probably be about the time, when the service
of the N^o Carolina militia will expire — they cannot
be kept beyond the time limited

I cannot close without requesting that some
measures may be entered into for a regular supply
of our Military chest — either by monies from England,
or by orders on this State and the Loan Office

The South

I have the honor to be

The Committee of Correspondence Gentlemen &c

Chat Town Dec. 20 1779

My Dear Sir, I received your letter of the 14th. —
 I am informed by Major Sturges that the stores you men-
 tion, allowed by the State, are just such that clothing
 cannot be had. — I am sorry you should think
 three months a long confinement in Camp. — however, I
 expect to your leaving it as soon as Col. Mather joins
 the Regiment, which I expect he will in a few days. —
 I hope if Col. Marston thinks you can be spared without
 injury to the service — I am Sir &c
 Yours
 Col. Horry
 RW 843

Chat Town Dec. 20. 1779.

I am informed that Gangs of little & great
 swarming from Wosawhatchie to Mrs Wall at Pondewas's
 places near May river — probably with a design to be
 sent over to Sabannah — You will therefore please
 to detach a party of Horse to enquire into this matter
 and if you find that any unwarrantable practices are
 carrying on or any communication wth country — you
 will order the persons to be secured, and the stock
 remaining brought off — I am Sir &c
 Yours
 Col. Marston
 RW 844

Chat Town Dec 21. 1779

My Dear Sir,
 Col. Drayton D^y S^r M^r L^{td}
 To Governor Rutledge, not sent

Chat Town December 23rd 1779

My Dear General,

I write by this oppy, rather from a
 desire to embrace it, than because I have any particular
 news to communicate —

Since my last an exchange of
 prisoners has taken place — our private soldiers have
 been all liberated, and but few of our officers remain
 in the enemy's hands — among them is Colonel Elbert

1811 of the 2^d Sec^a Ballotage - the enemy claim a Bugadier for him - he was appointed Bugadier of Mittra by a number of the Members of the Georgia Assembly - but not by a constitutional House - he is a valuable Officer, and his exchange is in every view to be desired.

Four Continental Frigates came into port this morning, which is a very great acquisition to our strength, and will I think wth the other armed vessels here secure our harbour - if the works on the land-side were completed I think we should be pretty safe - a vessel arrived yesterday wth stores from Philad.^a which is a very timely reinforcement.

The Troops occupy the same posts as when I did myself the honor to write you on the 7th ultimo - we recd a reinforcement the beginning of this month from Virginia of about 300 men commanded by Colonel Heth - we soon expect some militia from North Carolina, and the remainder of the troops from Virginia.

For the sake of an airing the enemy have posted most of their troops on the several plantations near Savannah - they yet continue very unhealthy.

By the last accounts from the Havana we learn that the Spaniards are gone against Pensacola, and that the Ratches up the Mississippi, with the other English settlements on that river, are in the hands of the Spaniards and 900 Prisoners - from our latest intelligence General Prevost not only affects to disbelieve these accounts - but it is said at Savannah that the Spaniards have been beaten in two actions, and that all is well in that Quarter.

Indeed it appears from his inactivity that he did really believe this account, or that he means to give up the Floridas as lost - for he has not reinforced them, unless within a few days past -

It is very evident that he expects every day

128.
a conference himself - for a few nights since, on information
that our ships were in the offing, lodgings were immediately
taken for the officers - This circumstance corroborates some
other which show what are their expectations -

His Excellency
General Washington
(N 847(3))

Dear Mr. Dear General,
with the greatest esteem &c
Ct. W. 22/11/79

since I addressed you under the 19th Captain
... of the ... a pretty acceptable ...
... for a compilation of our last ... to the
Board of War - in that ... are many articles, indispensably
necessary - While the armies were before Savannah
the French recd many supplies at Moultrie, Beaufort, &c.
from the inhabitants, and they now call upon us for their
pay - I do not think myself at liberty to order the
discharge of such debts, and what adds to the difficulty
is, that no account at the time was taken of them, or
receipt given - It is very disagreeing to the inhabitants
who owned such property, and came off with us, to be
kept out of their pay - Will not the Minister give some
Orders about these matters? Mr. Plombard, the French Consul,
does not think himself at liberty to settle it without
Orders from Count D'Estaing, to obtain which must
occupy a very considerable time -
Captain ... waits on Congress
with a letter and some papers from Georgia relative
to their regiment - It may seem strange to Congress
that the Regiment of that State have not been
completely agreeable to their resolve of the 29 March
last - certainly it would have been attempted but
Congress did not send the resolve to me, and I did not
obtain a sight of it until lately - I should be happy
to know who has the appointment of the Barrack Master
- we have been lately obliged to ask Mr. St. John to
act in that department - from his character I think
he will render service to the public - from the want
of the resolves of Congress, we are exceedingly at a loss on

These matters — I wish they were put — I some time since mentioned the necessity we were under of getting Thomas Rutledge Esq. to act as purchasing Comr. — he continues to act, and acceptably — he has no appointment — I wish this matter also might be settled —

I am happy to inform you that there has lately been an exchange of prisoners — that we have now no private in the hands of the enemy — and very few Officers — Colonel Elbert is among those unrechanged — I wish his liberation could be brought about — I have the honor to be Dear

Wm. M. Mathew Esq.

Chairman Committee of Correspondence

RW 845(2)

Dear Sir,

Charl Town Decem^r 27 1777

By the enclosed extract of a resolve of Congress which passed the 29th of March last, you may see that the power of consolidating incorporating & joining Continental battalions of this State with each other according to the arrangement of the Army as established May 1778. was committed to you, and the Commanding Officer of the Southern Army — Colonel Tennant is just arrived with power, and instructions to form the Army here on the same principles that the Main Army is formed and wishes to enter immediately upon this business but says that these regiments must in the first place be consolidated — I am fully convinced of the utility of the new system, and have such evidence of the advantages thereof, which have been experienced in the Northern Army, and that equal at least will be enjoyed here that I am led to wish that no time might be lost before your regiments are new arranged — in completing which, I am ready to join wth you Esq. as early as you shall think proper — I am Dear

Governor Rutledge

RW 850

Chas. M. Dec. 27. 1779

I have recd from several favors of the 15th and 16th instants
Captain Baph has recd the 3000 dollars mentioned by
and is gone to Congress.

You mention that I informed you
on the 10th inst that a quantity of salt should be purchased
and put up for the Militia - I believe I did so, and added
that from the want of Waggon, we had been prevented sending
some stores which were wanted in the upper parts of the
State, and that if twenty Waggon could be sent they should
be laden back with salt and such articles as were ne-
cessary - I have not altered my sentiment on the
matter, for the same necessity for them yet exists -
If any person thought that by sending stores for the
supply of the Militia, I meant any others than those
who were called on duty, and that it was to be dealt
out in any other way than through the hands of
the Commissary, they quite misapprehended me - I had
not a power to order it otherwise - I wish to be
supplied with Waggon for the purpose of trans-
porting stores such as salt, rum, powder, lead,
fire arms, camp kettles, felling axes, &c &c from the
want of which last year your state suffered - On
these matters I have wrote fully to Colonel Weyly -

No application has been made to me
for the recall of Colonel Parker - I thought he
gave universal satisfaction -

Col. McMurphy will be supplied
with such sums of money as he shall call for

I am Sir &c

Honbl. S. Watton Esq. This letter carried to the next post
continued -

28th your favor of the 21st I recd this morning - I wish you had pointed out who had misapplied the money drawn from the Confederal Chest - for they must answer for such misapplication

I will call on the Commissioners to make returns of all the Assistants in their line, and if it appears that there are a number ~~unnecessary~~ they will be surely reduced - if any have ~~been~~ ^{been} who are unnecessary, it has been without my knowledge -

Humble E. Wallon Esq
RW 85121

I am sir &c

Dear sir,

Chat Town Dec^r 24. 77.

Your letter of the 12 I recd yesterday. I am sorry that your success against the enemy was not in prop^r to your exertions - but however I think your attempt will answer many valuable purposes; ^{as it will not only} put the enemy on their guard, ^{but} lead them to approach you wth reserve. I never meant by my orders to put it out of your power to give every possible assistance to the inhabitants and their property, and it is only a reading with that twice which I expect. I requested the Governor of this State a few days since to order Genl. Sherman to join Genl. McIntosh, who I thought was then in Georgia, in case he should be called by him - Should the enemy on the late Confederal news think of marching that way, and as they should offer of treading on their heels, or should the enemy be making any movement which might either endanger the safety of this State or the State of Georgia - In Genl. McIntosh's

affiance in cap. Genl. Wmson's assistance should be needed for the annoyance of the enemy, or to cover the country you will please to represent to him & particulars to request his aid — I have no doubt but there is a great want of money in our part of the department and it is my unhappiness that I have it not in my power to remedy the evil — I have borrowed all that I can at present get out of the treasury, all that I can get from the loan office, and I was resorted to the necessity a few days since of borrowing a few dollars from a friend for family use — but as the time for collecting the taxes is now arrived — I flatter myself that in a few days we shall have a full supply — in confidence of this I have requested Mr. Roe, the late Comr., to bring his acc'ts that they may be adjusted, and he receive the balance due to him, and what is due to the people of the country —

The determination of the Country that they will not longer give forage or provisions is alarming, and may prove fatal to its safety — this will reduce us to the sad alternative of taking the necessaries for the army by force, or abandoning the Country to be pillaged by every invader — this I can not submit to but in the last extremity — the former is the most eligible — and I doubt not but the civil authority will empower our Officers, under certain restrictions, to take certain supplies for you —

These are delicate matters, and ought to be treated w. the greatest reluctance, and but in cases of the most pressed necessity — No money was sent by Major ~~Smith~~ Colonel Marbury — he had a warrant for a considerable sum — but it was

not in the Chest — The Governor mentioned in one of his letters a few days since that you expected to be removed — I have given no such intimation, nor do I expect it will take place, unless the movements of the enemy on the sea-coast should make it necessary —

29th Your letter of the 21. I have read — I think your moving into Burke County will answer many valuable purposes — that part of the Country will thereby be covered, and you in a situation to make speedy offensive operations, if any opportunity of doing it should offer wth a prospect of success — after you have read this letter, you will destroy it as some thing in it should not come to the knowledge of the enemy, which may be the case if retained among your papers. I am D^r Sir &c
 Col. R. B. Parker Dec 27 1879
 RW 848(3)

Dear Sir,

Charl Town Decem^r 27. 1879

I am favored wth yours of the 15th — as soon as the assembly meet here, which may be expected in about three weeks, I hope to have the matter relative to Forage regulated, untill then I cannot promise myself any success by an application — I wish you could procure a number of Waggon and send them down — I will order them back loaded with rum, salt, musquet powder, lead, Flint, Iron nails, Cartridge Boxes, Canteens, Felling axes, Hoes, Cartridge paper, Files of different sorts, Carpenter tools, Nails, Thread, Tapes, Hatchets, Bridle bits, Stump irons, &c &c — These things are necessary for the safety of your part of the Country — we have lately rec^d a supply of some of them — send before it be too late —

RW 8520 (1)

I am sorry that it is not

in my power to furnish you wth a sum of money - I think
 the best way is to draw a warrant for
 the sum you need, and sign your rec^t on the back of it,
 and give the power to the person you send to receive
 the allowance for waggon when
 sending it to the field officers
 for baggage, one to a company of fifty men, if they have
 tents to carry - if they have
 no tents, one light kettle, half that number will do -
 - you will please to regulate yourself in future,
 as near as you can to this rule -

I have lately rec^d an intimation that
 there are too many men employed on the Staff - I
 wish you would be so good as to send me a return
 of those acting under you -

Colonel May
 R. 20 20 (2)

Sam. D. for Sec

Chas. Town Dec. 22nd - 1779

I am informed that too many persons
 are employed in the Commissaries Department - that
 their number is so increased, that they are a burthen
 on the Community - this complaint leads me to
 address you on the subject, and as there is now
 a good opportunity of reducing them, if too many, as Mr.
 Swan has resigned - I wish you would look partic-
 ularly into the matter, and rectify all disorders in
 the Department - you will please to report to
 Mr. Rutledge the number employed either as
 Purchasers or Drivers -

Sam. D. for Sec

Major Culbert
 R. 20 853

You will be much exposed in Burk county to the
 ravages of the enemy nothing but the greatest vigilance
 will preserve you from capture - I think you had better
 frequently shift your ground -

Head Quarters Fort Sum Dec 31. 1861

Sir,

By this Flag under the care of Capt. Hester comes Capt. Redmond of the armed Brig. Dolphin and just before we as have not entered on board our ship. — They are sent from a persuasion that you will order the same amount of like rank, prisoners w. you, to be returned. — It should not be a sufficiency in your hands that will be accounted for hereafter.

I have to request you to say that those Officers who are now prisoners at you may be liberated on parole until their exchange can be effected — I am induced to believe you will agree to this as the sufferings of a few individuals can in no way retard or promote public measures or decide w. any importance in y^r present controversy. — Such of our Officers as shall share this indulgence will be punctually accounted for —

On the 6 of Novem^r Capt. D. H. Young an Assistant Surgeon in the Sea Hospital at New York, taken on his passage from New Providence to that place, was permitted to return on parole of which the enclose is a copy — Should you think of exchanging the Doctor, our Officer who is sent out for him may return w. this Flag —

I have, at the request of His Excy the Governor, to propose y^r exchange of A. Wright H. Hall and B. Cooper Esq^s Citizens of this State who were omitted in the last exchange — Should they return to us — Sgt. Whitfield Ins. Esq. now on parole w. you may be considered as liberated from his parole — The enclosed deposition will inform you of the murder of Capt. Smith, an exchanged enemy prisoner, as also of one Baker, by a party of Colonel McGinty's Corps commanded by a Capt. Mowbray

admirable to justify the crime by alleging that he
has orders so to do — I do not entertain an idea,
that Congress could have issued such orders, and
have not a doubt but you will order the perpetrators
of so heinous an act to be consigned to that justice
and punishment which such barbarity deserves —

Yours Truly Major Genl. Crockett, I have the honor to be
fca

RW 855(2)

Charl Town Decem^r 31. 1779

Dear Sir

I have ordered the Commanding Officer
of the few remaining light Horse in Georgia to
collect the men, and put them under your
direction — I wish, Sir, you would incorporate
them as much as possible wth your Dragoons —

I congratulate you on the late Order
of the British like to this Department
Yours Truly
Major Jameson

Sancti fca

RW 856

Charl Town Decem^r 30. 1779

I have recd yours of the 23^d — I would
have all the prisoners of war sent into the enemy
by a "flag", and a receipt taken for them to be accounted
for hereafter —

The pains you have taken to accom-
odate the Men is peculiarly agreeable to me, and
it gives me great pleasure to find that they are
well provided — Give them a Bill of men daily, and
I hope you are out for more —

The matter respecting
the hanging off the Cattle on y^e river, destroying the
Wing Lt's neck, the Negroes plundering &c
I have

RW 857(1)

137. Shown to the Governor, and expect he will give
Orders to Col Garder respecting it. — May send you
Person if you can to Savannah for intelligence, you
him, if you can get a good man, a few which, please
make it worth his while to run riggers — I need
not mention that this must be a perfect parcel

Col. Marion

RW 854121

I am Sir

Charl Town January 1. 1780

Sir,

In answer to your letter of the 23rd instant
I beg leave to inform you that Colonel Welly has
been directed to settle all the acct^s of his Department —
— it is impossible for me to enter into the details
thereof, whatever is just and customary in a war
I am sure he will do — whatever Waggon Horses have
been taken in action, or killed in Battle, and through
the neglect of the Owners, will by the public be paid
for, if by their Order they were taken into service —
such as have been lost through the inattention of
the Owner, who is receiving hire for his team cannot
be entitled, in my opinion to any benefits. he would
not have need was he employed by individuals.

I beg this copy send a sum of money to Colonel
Welly to enable him to discharge these debts

Wm Tew Esq.

RW 8604

I am Sir &c

38.
Dear Sir,

Charl Town January 3rd 1780.

I am yesterday honored wth your favor
of the 13 ultimo —

It affords great pleasure to be
informed that your militia have been draughted,
are on their march, and may soon be expected here,
where their services are greatly needed, and by y^e left
wth you from Phila^a, will probably soon be more so —
While the continued exertions of your State for the
defense of this, and of Georgia, leave no room to doubt
of their zeal in support of the common cause, and the
particular interest of your neighboring States, who
must view wth pleasure your voluntary and timely
efforts to preserve their safety and happiness —
The impartial Historian will record these acts
amongst their virtuous deeds, which have reflected so
much lustre on the three first years of American
Independence —

We can supply your militia
wth arms, ammunition, cartridge boxes, and Camp Kettles —
We are greatly deficient in the article of tents — if
you could send us them, and some lead they will
be peculiarly agreeable — Your Excellency will
give me leave also to recommend that some shoes,
stockings, shirts, and small clothes be sent on — for,
from their long march, the men will be barefoot
before they arrive here, and from the want of
Magazines, at which the militia can receive
such necessary supplies, they become unfit for duty,
their health endangered, and get a dislike for the
service — I would gladly pay for these things
if they could purchase them, — but they too seldom
have it in their power to do so — and I am quite
unhappy that from the low state of our public

139. magazines, I have little reason to expect we
shall have it in our power to remedy this
evil — Provision is made for the reception of
your troops on the routes you have indicated —
— every allowance, ~~Itself~~, will be made for the
difficulties in marching Militia — I know they
are great, and will be so, until all of them are
really influenced by those principles of patriotism,
that love of their Country, and concern for their
freedom and independence, which induced America
in the first instance, to oppose the tyranny of
Britain — I never mention Militia but I am
filled with concern — that we are under the necessity
of calling them out — for, there is such a waste of
time in marching to and from camp, and expending
with the public monies by extraordinary expense
in keeping up an Army in this way, that half of
husbandmen from 40 fields (being double the number
absent from their homes to those really in arms)
— besides, the more melancholy evil, which arises
from a call so frequently of different Men into Camp,
many of whom are lost before they become seasoned
to it, and the distresses brought on the families of
those, who are hurried away before they have an
opportunity of making the necessary provision for their
subsistence while absent, are misfortunes, much
to be regretted, and guarded against if possible.

From this view of the matter I am inclined
and always have been inclined to wish that
instead of these frequent calls of the Militia the
Continental Battalions were filled up — and that
that from the recent evil felt by the late mode
of keeping up an army, your State would have
been led to have filled up your Continental regiments —
— hardly a sum can be named as a Bounty
for a soldier, who would engage during the war.

for two years, which might not be given rather
than for the present mode - This will appear
if we consider the Men engaged for three years
- but not that but one half of the militia
called out are in the field at a time, which
I believe is true - and estimate the wages of a
man for three years - the several bounties given
to the Militia in that time - and the expenses of
provision, waggon &c, marching to, and from camp
and the great loss of ammunition in shifting
from one hand to another - and I think the
necessity and propriety of filling up your Contint.
Battalions will be further evident, when we reflect
that from Men recruited for a considerable length
of time / a time sufficient in wh. to discipline them /
more essential services may be expected than from
a like number not retained in service long enough
to learn the duties or become enured to the fatigues
of the camp - and that to avoid the dissatisfaction
wh. arises in y^r minds of the Militia, on these
frequent calls is a mischief which we should
avoid if consistent wth y^r safety of the State -
Governor Caswell I have the honor to be &c

Char. Town January 1st 1780.

Congress have recommended to the several
States to pass laws restraining the price of Country
produce and all imported articles, after an allowance for
expenses &c excepting salt and Warlike stores
that they do not exceed 2 times the value they were
in the year 1774, as also all labor, freighting, &c, and
have directed that an account be kept of all

(141) purchases &c in what State they were made -
that such State which shall omit to pay the
the price as aforesaid, that the receipt of such
articles so purchased; and services so done may cost shall
be charged to such States respectively - as your
assembly will soon sit, and I doubt not regulate these
matters as directed by Congress - you will make no
particular contracts but from mere necessity the
price of which shall exceed 20¢ per lb. what they were
1794 - Show this letter to the Commissary that he may
govern himself by the same principles

Colonel Mott
RW 863(2)

San Francisco

Oct 2nd Aug 3rd 1794

Sir,

By a letter from his Excy the Gov. of your State, I
have the happiness of knowing that you are appointed
to the command of the 3000 militia ordered out and
I may soon expect their arrival - the entire year
at a time, when from the information I have just
recd from Col. Tennant that there were embarkments
attending the march of them, is peculiarly agreeable
- provision is made on the several routes for
the reception of the troops - they can be supplied
with ammunition and cartridge boxes - after they
arrive in this State, I wish to have the earliest notice of it
as they are not to come to this Town - but will take post on Sajo's
River near the Mills - this post is chosen rather than any other
because you can be supplied wth boards and stuff sufficient
to build huts - there you can have a quantity of corn
and your rice ground - and there you can receive a full
supply of provisions as to your horses

Brig: Genl
RW 865

Chas Town January 4. 1780

I am informed that the Virginia line are ordered
to march to reinforce the one here - Unless they
have more than the common stock of shoes and socks they
will soon be barefooted which will, at this inclement season
prevent the continuing the march - I have, therefore, to
request that this article may be provided for the troops
and supplied them, if necessary, on the march - And as
the reinforcement with augment ye army to a number
beyond our ability to clothe from our present magazines
being distant is indeed sent for from ye West Indies
and the troops dependent on so many circumstances,
that it would be unsafe and imprudent to depend
on the arrival of troops as ye army have defied ye found
it seems to ye clothing of their own troops, that a
supply ought to be put on for you - Blankets, shoes,
and put on now exceedingly wanted here - Many of you
express a real want of cloth for themselves, and cannot
be supplied here as it cannot be obtained either from the
public or private stores in this town -

I have the honor to be Sir

Your Obedt Servt

RW 867

as a few days from hence will
be the 26th October last - I have
the duty assigned of the establishment of the new
regulation, not to afford him every assistance in my
power, and it will be my greatest
attention to take the troops in the establishment of the
new plan adopted for the order and discipline of the
army of the United States

I hear - but have no official notice of it -
but the Virginia line are ordered from the Board of War to
reinforce the Department of the South - I think it
will be fortunate indeed for this country and I think ex-
ceedingly so for the United States and the Camp in general
- it is just what we need at this time

the were "evacuated" by Congress. It might be argued that security it will afford to the State and Congress.

The enemy seem to be alarmed by the movements of Spaniards, and towards the end of the last month of the 60th regiment to St Augustine, and (some say) a small boat. What has been the fate of Mobile and Pensacola is uncertain - By some accty we have reason to believe they are in the hands of the Spaniards, this I have from a number of Deputies, and since it is in the hands of one of our officers, who was later, exchanged and left prisoner - I think there cannot be a doubt that such a report prevails there - but what gave rise to it I know not - Though I have not so full evidence of the report as gives me satisfaction respecting the truth of it, yet I have thought it necessary, and my duty to give Mr. Sney this hint.

While I congratulate you on the success of the arms of the United States in the department more immediately under your direction - I have to lament that so little has been done here that we have nothing for our consolation, but that we have not permitted the enemy to run away with us -

Yours truly
Geo. Washington

RW 86813

Scutcheon,

Chas. Town Jan 8. 1790

By the enclosed papers you will learn that ^{upon} a survey of the ship Queen of France she is deemed unfit for the sea, and will remain without very great repairs which will consume more time than the Officers and Men are willing to spend - indeed it seems a doubt whether she is worth repairing or not - I will endeavor to keep the People on board until we hear from the Navy

RW 87011

and I am informed by a note in a letter from Little
that the Virginia line are ordered from the Main Army
to take the one here. I have the same note from
the Governor of Virginia requesting that the State would
supply the troops on their march at once and at
regular articles; and that they attend to clothing
their troops after their arrival. I have no objection
made no provision for this matter. Though the State
might be urged to it - for I see little probability
of obtaining such supplies as will be required
though they are and have been repeatedly sent for.

By the last accounts from Savannah I am
informed that the 60th reg^t is ordered to St. Augustine.
The enemy seem to be alarmed by the movements
of the Spaniards - we do not know yet the fate of
Mulle or of Oufacola - there is some reason to believe
they are both in the hands of the Spaniards - this
is undoubtedly the report in Savannah - I have
it from DeFeters, and from Mr. Lowen, one of our officers
who lately left it - what foundation there is for
the report or what gave rise to it I know not - I have
my doubts with respect to the fact, though I think
it my duty, and that I may safely give the hint
on mentioning my authority.

The Board of war are re-
quested to give us farther supplies - they are necessary
and I think no time should be lost in forwarding
them - Though I have the highest opinion of the ex-
ecutions of that Board in their difficult and laborious
department - yet I can easily suppose, from the
multiplicity of business on their hands, that something
may escape them - I wish, therefore, when you, Genl^l,
have a leisure hour that you would enquire into those
matters - I cannot close without mentioning that
we have not any money in our Contind. Chest - The
Department suffers daily by this accident -
Honble The Committee of Correspondence I have the honor to be
Yours

I am very glad that your State did not vote the
last meeting of the Assembly full of you (Antislavery).
I shall ever be most anxious to have promote the
interests of your State as well as that of the Country.
Very truly I remain Sir Yrs

RW 871

Worth Major General
Baron Steuben

RW 869

camp,

Char Town Jan 8. 1788.

Dear Sir,

Since I did myself the honor of addressing
 your Excellency under the Title I have recd. from
 "Melan", the Command^r & Officer of your Troop here
 the enclosed List of Deserters. It is very alarming
 to observe such want of principle and faith, that
 neither the one or the other is sufficient to restrain
 Men from such wicked and dangerous practices - and
 unhappy when desertions become so frequent, that to
 commit the fault of desertion might be useful,
 which our feelings would prompt us to regret, to know.

I think if your inhabitants could be
 induced to exert themselves in apprehending deserters, and
 none were suffered to remain in the country at liberty,
 it would bring many from the attempt as they
 could not avail themselves by such conduct, while
 others might be deterred from fear of that punishment
 which such crimes justly deserve.

Two Officers are now sent from
 this place and orders are given to them to exert
 themselves in apprehending Deserters - But, without
 the assistance of the civil, and the aid and countenance
 of the Militia our endeavors will have little effect.

I have directed an Officer to wait
 on your Excy, and request your interposition in these
 matters.

We learn from Savannah, by the
 last accounts, that the 60th Reg^t is ordered to St.
 Augustine - I think the movement of y^r Spaniards
 has alarmed the enemy and called their attention
 to that place - We have no certain accounts from
 Pensacola or Mobile - but Deserters say that they
 stand in Georgia these places were taken - but
 these are mere reports.

I have the honor to be

Y^r co

Chs Excy

Governor Caswell

Chas. Town Aug 8/90

Sir,

I was a few days since home on my return from
 15. Town left by Lt. Col. Tarrant. The difficulties which
 you described relative to our present ~~difficulties~~ ^{difficulties} are very great, and a little time must be taken
 to arrange this matter, and place it in a position, which it
 will be accepted without complaint. The ~~requirements~~ ^{requirements} for
 are to be consolidated - that will give us a number of
 supernumerary officers - either by the new organization
 or by taking a ~~staff~~ ^{staff} to act as adjt. Genl. (Col. Tarrant
 cannot attend to it) I think this matter will be transacted
 in a manner, which will promote the interests of the
 service and give satisfaction to all parties - That
 it may, every attention will be given - for it is
 much easier to prevent funds than to cure and remove
 the ill consequences after they have arisen.

The late supply of stores which you sent
 us, is an important and much appreciated - I am only
 a short mem^o of a few more, which I doubt not to be sent as
 requested by the D^r M^r Genl. will, I doubt not to be sent as
 soon as the state of your magazines will permit.

The movements of the enemy in an annual
 denote some apprehensions respecting the safety of
 St. Augustine - for, a few days since, they ordered
 the 60 regt. from Georgia to that place - many of
 the men, unwilling to remain in Georgia in a
 climate so unfriendly to their health, departed and
 came into this state - we have no certain accounts
 of the fate of Mobile and Pensacola - but we have
 some reason to suppose that both are in the hands
 of the Spaniards - One of our officers who came
 lately from Savannah says that it was so re-
 ported there - the Defenders say they heard the
 same account - but I have not that confidence of
 it, on which I dare found my belief of the truth.

Richd. Peters Esq
 Board of War

I have the honor to be
 Y^{rs}

Chat Town January 10. 1780

It is not true that when the he apprehends that
the enemy are left for and can be at different places.
before the party might be surprised and brought off.
The whole of the force of the army across the river would
be within their limits and prevent their receiving the
supply which they might expect.

I am at too great a distance from camp to give any
particular advice in this matter, because the success of
movements of this kind depends on many circumstances
and a particular knowledge of the state and situation of
the enemy is necessary, and which may be materially
change from the time I can be informed of it and an answer
returned. I therefore leave it with you to consult with the command-
ing Officer of the force, and after that should you from the evidence
you may obtain think the measure advisable you will attempt
something of the kind, and if Capt. Meil should be thought a
suitable person to execute, it will be agreeable to me, however
that must be left with you and the Officers also - he has an
idea that a force of six men from y^e Legion, and y^e same number
from Col. Hays's Corps, joined with six from Augusta, he
could effect something pretty - I need say nothing
your letter by which I learn that y^e Officers w^h you
differ a little in their opinion w^h respect to the mode
of officering the retained regiments - but, notwithstanding
I think that matter will be easily settled - you
must not suppose it is not incline to stand with
the other side - this settlement cannot affect
the balance now there are not enough in y^e whole
to give y^e force regiments to remain - they
should therefore join you immediately.

Y^r Obedient Servant

Sam^l J. Lee

149. January 11, 1880

Mr.

Information leads me to believe that you have
it in idea soon to quit this State wth y^r Squadron
under your command. The present aspect of affairs
in this Quarter is such, and y^r consequent
continuance here likely to be so ⁸ important to the
Country, and the common cause, that had not the
Governor so fully stated particulars as to leave
me nothing to urge but to second his requests
and confirm their propriety, I could with by
every argument which can convince the good sense
would accede therefore to intreat you stay.

Give me leave to assure you Sir, that having
your residence here it will afford me much pleasure
to make it as agreeable, as I am persuaded it
will be beneficial in promoting the peace and
of our alliance. I have the honor to be y^r o^bd^t
dear Sir

AW 876

Dear Sir January 12, 1880

From the information I rec^d the last
evening and communicated to you yesterday, and
by your latest account from Philadelphia I am induced
to believe that there is a fleet off the bar with
troops on board, whose views are hostile against
this State — our unprepared situation to resist
such an event ought to call us to our attention
that we may by double action in future ward off
the evil, and be enabled to counteract the designs
of the enemy. While they attempt our sea
coast, I think there will be their emphasis on
the back parts of the Country endeavor to subvert
the unfriendly, and call the Indians to their aid.

RW 877(1)

100 I therefore have to request that your Excellency
would order Genl. Wright to embody yr. militia under
his command and take post at present in Augusta
and join the troops of Georgia - by this means
he will not only prevent the evil which I apprehend
from the Disaffected and Indians but will
have it in his power to repel any movements of the
enemy towards that quarter unless they march
a very considerable force before, hereby I may
with safety withdraw the Continent. troops now there -

I wish that one third of the militia in
the lower part of the country might be called out
and dispersed at different places, ready to be
drawn to a point as soon as the safety of this, or
our neighbouring States, shall make it necessary.

The unprosperous state of the war, and that
this Town makes it necessary for me to request that
some measures might be adopted by which a number
of regiments might be completed in a short time
might be brought to the work, and compelled to
remain there. I show the difficulty that you have
already had in the matter, and would not now
repeat my request unless I were it -

I have also to request that the vessels
now in port should be detained, for they are
much wanted to supply the town wth fuel & forage
- the men will be wanted to man the armed vessels -
before I am informed that many of them have risen
on board, which is a sign of a blockade will be needed
for the inhabitants and for the army -

The exhausted state of our military
strength, and the little prospect ^{things} that it will soon be
restored from the North is a circumstance truly
alarming, and lays us under the necessity of asking
further aid from your State and that the people

151. might be urged to pay in this tax - Congress say
that the money raised here should be for the use of the
Department -

Swift, Sir, that the inhabitants, under
circumstances will permit, would lay up for the following
immediately three months provisions at least -

Mr Rutledge, our Commissioner of Purchases,
has just informed me that from the want of money
he has it not in his power to procure such quantities
of rice as he has been directed to lay up, and that
without the intervention of the Civil authority, he cannot
complete it - I am therefore to request the necessary
interposition in the matter also -

Governor Rutledge Saml D. Sir Sec

RW 877(3)
Sir,

What time leaving 12/1/80
of the 10th

The evening before the last a ship was seen and
spoke with off this side from the fort house to George
w. African troops on board - by various signals she
threw out, and for other reasons we are inclined to
believe, that she is one of a large fleet, which was
ready for sea when our last advice left Philadelphia
- that the subjugation of this state is their object
and that the sea ports will claim their first atten-
tion - from this conviction I have been induced to
request the Governor of this State to order Genl
Williamson w. his baggage to embark, and
take post in Augusta to watch the movements,
check the Indians, and resist any movements of
the enemy towards the upper parts of the country
unless in very considerable force. I rely upon it
that every assistance will be given by your state
to promote these salutary purposes - that your
men will turn out w. valour and keep the
field w. perseverance - for nothing is after of

152. them at present but to aid in protecting them -
- slaves.

I fear that if people are entering into com-
- binations not to supply of any kind in certain
- conditions - such agreements are dangerous to the
- people of Georgia and I hope for the future
- of the State ~~by the energetic recommendation of Congress~~
- ~~of the 19th of June~~

^{Head of this see}
^{paragraph 23}
^{153 23}
I am sorry to hear that you are in that matter
at all times - the paper I have seen I think the
better, and that you fill it up if possible - I
think on only of military fronts to be raised, and
have no objection to the mode of offering that
is recommended by your officers, viz. by 3^d Senior -

I am not sure that the first & principal
contest will be on our own the sea coast, I shall
be under the necessity of moving the federal troops
from the upper part of the country - but you may be
assured that I have no particular attachment to
any particular state in the limits of the Southern
Department only will circumscribe my attention,
and that any support will be given to 3^d inland
settlements, which then circumstances shall require,
and my numbers shall permit me to grant

I am anxious that some further
military supplies be thrown into your country - a
deficiency of waggons only has prevented my
doing so before now - I wish you would aid
the Quarter Master in this matter

The Governor
of Georgia
I have the honor to be
Yca

Ches. Town January 12. 1780

Sir,

I have been honored wth your favor of this date
 Although on receiving your instructions from
 His Excy Count D'Estaing, you found it necessary
 to prevent your remaining here but on more urgent
 marks of necessity than what appeared at the
 time of my writing yet I flatter myself that
 appearance of the enemy off this harbor and
 recent advice from Philadelphia that they have
 subjugation of this State in contemplation -
 this war, the Magazine of this Country is to be
 first object of the attention - that your efforts
 in conjunction wth those here, will probably prevent
 this Harbour from insult and contribute much
 to the safety of this State - are circumstances, which
 you will consider as being so essential as fully
 to justify your remaining with the ships under
 your command, until the common interest should
 make your departure less necessary

Le Chevalier Dureman I have the honor to be, Sir

RW 879

To the Gov. of Georgia, from page 152.

I enclose also the resolves of Congress of the 4th & 29th of
 by the former you will observe that Congress have reduced
 the number of your regiments, and that one only is to be
 kept up - by the second that the incorporating the
 regiments, arranging the retained one, agreeable to the
 of Congress May 27. 1778. is left wth you & y^r Command
 of y^r army - I wish they had come to hand before you but you
 had taken the matter up, as it would have saved them much
 trouble, and y^r business been sooner completed - but now
 it is not now too late, and am ready to give my assistance
 this business at any time - the sooner the better - I
 have called upon your state to tell me y^r intentions
 you will see by their answer of the 11th Nov. last - I have no objection
 officiating the one retained as agreed on & recommended by y^r officers
 by y^r seniors - If you are in sentiment wth me, I wish y^e officers might
 be appointed without loss of time, and that you would give them
 certificates of their appointments - for I have no black Commissions
 soon as they arrive I will send them

RW 878(3)

B.S.
Dear Sir,

Chas. Town January 14. 1780

Some days since I mentioned to Your
Excellency that the Ship, Queen of France, was deemed unfit
to go to sea - and that Capt. Rathbun wished to have
the Vice-Bird, in which he could employ his people
and quiet their restless minds - She is now in port,
and if he can have her, he will fix her immediately
and put to sea - I have seen the Commodore, and
am sorry to inform you that there is not one of his
ships fit to go out, nor will they be until the beginning
of next week - the weather is so cold that little can
be done in a day respecting their repairs - though even
he assures me that no time will be lost, and that the
first minute they are ready they will leave this harbour
the distresses of the people from the want of wood
is most distressing - they are burning up the board
walks and indeed part of the fort itself - the distress
on the account must be high - I fear the consequences, we
have wood enough on the shore, but have not vessels
in which to transport it - I wish some vessels in
town might be impressed by your Excellency's order
though I do not see how the evil can be remedied
for it would be dangerous to the rights of the people
for their property to be taken by an armed force, other
than such as should be ordered in aid of civil, and
it would be unsafe to withdraw 7th Troop

James Rutledge

Saml D. Sir J. &c

January 15. 1780

I have recd your favor of the 5th inst. - I am sensible
a body of Horse would be of public utility - but the want
of money, and every equipment necessary for such
a body constrains us to postpone raising them - I have
ordered the Clothier General to furnish Capt. McDonald
with clothing as is now ready - the further supplies
of the Light Horse will be attended to among the first
after the arrival of clothing - I am Sir &c
Capt. Aquaticus New

January 16. 1780.

Dear Sir,

By the late appearance of the enemy off the coast, and by recent advices from Philad^a that they have in contemplation the reduction of this State, and that that Town will be their first object. I am induced to desire that you would hold yourself in readiness with all ye troops under your command to march on ye shortest notice. I am &c Sir your

Col. Parker

RW 582

January 16. 1780

Sir,

I recd yesterday your letter of the 10th instant covering a request of the Assembly of Georgia.

I have not now, nor at any time, any public monies in my hands belonging to the State of Georgia. I am Sir &c

Hoult Rich^d Howdy

RW 583

Gov. of Geo. ^{id}

Chas Towne January 16. 1780

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure herewith to forward a letter from the Governor. I find he has writ you the same, and requested that you would draw out part of your men. I have only to add that I request it may be effected as soon as possible and that you would take command of them and march directly to Augusta, for I wish to withdraw the Continent^l troops now there. In case of a siege I think the Continent^l troops will be better endure the siege than the militia, and that the militia will more readily act in the upper part of the Country. You will I hope continue your exertions to obtain the information. Though I cannot now send you the money yet I expect soon to have it in my power to do so. I pay the bill you sent me. You will be so good to give me the earliest notice of your arrival in Geo. and what stores will be needed. I am &c Sir

Gen. Williamson

RW 884

156. Dear Sir,

Char. Town. January 16. 1780.

I have detained your friend in hopes of sending you some money — I have a prospect of it tomorrow. If I then receive it, I shall send him off immediately — Mr. Stirk mentioned to me that you had appointed him Commissary of military stores — I think him to be a very good man, and like the appointment — I have but one doubt on my mind respecting it; and that is whether it should not have been given to one of yr. supernumerary officers — However this matter I shall leave wth you — The enclosed letter to Genl. Wm. Mifflin you will forward by express as soon as may be —

Yours truly
J. M. W.

I am D^r Sir &c

Char. Town January 16. 1780

We have heard nothing of the enemy since the 10th saying that our flag on its return from Savannah met a large ship standing S^{ward}, which is supposed to be the one seen off this bar — I should expect news of the accounts I have recd. of yr. enemies intentions against your State and this should be confirmed I shall communicate it by express as early as possible — If the enemy mean seriously to besiege this town they will undoubtedly attempt to inflame the Indians, and call them, and the unfriendly in the back parts of the country to their aid — too much attention therefore cannot be paid to prevent the evils which may arise from this quarter — The Governor of this State has directed General William Mifflin to move into Augusta with 4 or 600 men, and, if necessary, with one third of his Brigade (except those at the two depots) a greater number, under the present law he cannot call out at a time —

Governor of Georgia

I am Sir &c

157
Sir,

Charl Town January 16. 1780.

As the Continental ships of war have been sent here for the protection of this part of the United States, some of which it is necessary should cruise off the bar while others must remain here to protect the harbor - as those ships, which shall be sent out, may be fortunate enough to take prizes, while others are denied that opportunity by ^{being} kept in port. I wish previous to any of the ships being ordered out that some agreement may be made for the division of the prizes, should any be taken, this I think is necessary in order to do justice, and give satisfaction to all.

Commodore Whipple

I am Sir &c

Sir,

Charl Town January 17. 1780

You will please to order two of the Continental frigates, now in this harbour, to proceed to sea as those, you think proper to send, can be got ready -

They will cruise along the coast to pt. Howard & ward between St Augustine and Cape Roman within the Gulph - you will also order out the Eagle 26th Boat wth those ships you find, as a Tender, - If you should discover any of the enemies fleet, you will endeavor to convey some notice thereof as soon as possible, and if their force be an overmatch for you - you will in that case, endeavor to make this harbour wth your ships - If you should be put out of the harbour by a superior force, and there is no prospect of your regaining it, you will then endeavor to make Chesapeake Bay or Delaware, and on your arrival at either of the places aforesaid, you will as soon as possible notify the Marine Committee of your situation, and of the state of matters in this country as near as possible - if you discover nothing in ten days you will return.

I expect the french frigates will put to sea - I wish you to co-operate with them for the annoyance of the enemy - You will suffer me to recommend to the Officers commanding the several ships on the

158 station to enter into some agreement previous to
any of them leaving the harbor relative to the
distribution of prizes, should any be taken, to prevent any
disputes arising in the minds of those who remain
Comdr. Whipple Jan 18th 1780

RW 889 (2)

Charl Town Jan 18. 1780

Dear Sir, Yours of the 12th I have recd - I cannot enter
into detail respecting your Officers, but have to recomen-
dation all possible economy be attended to, and that no
more men be employed but you than are absolutely
necessary - I do not think a clerk is necessary for
the Company of military stores - we do not find one
in the whole, all y^e principal part of the stores for
the Department - for y^e artillery as well as y^e Infantry,
I have at length, after many disappointments, procured
by borrowing it 25,000 Dollars, and put it by your nephew
a further supply shall be given you as soon as it can
be collected - I suffer me to repeat my wish that waggons
be sent for the stores I mentioned in my letter to
you - the safety of your Country too much
depends on them not to require every exertion in our
power to get them on Jan 18th 1780

Chas. Whipple

RW 889

Charl Town Jan 18. 1780

Dear Sir, It has been lately said by some of the Pilots that
our ships cannot lie with their broadsides to the entrance
of the bar - this is a matter which I think should be
immediately ascertained - I therefore have to request
that some of the Officers who are to command your floating
batteries be ordered to join some of the Officers who command
the Continental Frigates, and sound, and mark wth buoys the
shape of the interior mouth of the bar, and adjacent
points - after that the tomorrow might reconnoitre
the whole of the entrance, and wth y^e assistance of the Pilots
determine which would be the best station for
the defence of the passage and most effectually to
prevent the enemy Jan 18th 1780
Comdr. Whipple

Char. Town Jan. 18 1780

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 9th I recd yesterday afternoon. Any attacks upon the friendly tribes of Indians, on the part of whom depends the well being, if not y^e being, of our young settlements on our inland frontiers, are unwise, impolitic, cruel, and unjust, and ought to call up the attention of every man, who wishes well to those States, not only to prevent in future, such barbarities as are depicted in the talk you enclosed to me, but to keep the clouds bright, and, on our part, keep the path between them as always white — I think the Assembly of Georgia will be convinced of the necessity of this, and on further reflection refrain from granting any of the Indian land, or doing any thing which should endanger the present peace — I am convinced that you have now, and have had for many years an arduous task to preserve the peace and good will of the Indians. You have been happy enough hitherto for the greater part of the time to effect so deplorable a matter, and hope that tho' you may see some irregularities, yet that you will not be discouraged, and think of removing from your present agreeable habitation — You must be assured that your services are regarded with high approbation, and that every support will be given you.

I am D^r Sir &c

George Galphin Esq

RW 891

D^r Sir,

Char. Town Jan. 19 1780

Your letter of the 13th I recd by express — we have heard nothing of the vessels supposed to be off this coast and destined for Savannah wth troops.

I have spoken to Mr Dant respecting the matter and he has written to you fully, I suppose, there is

Major Lathrop has been wrote to on y^e subject of the port, and the necessity of sending waggons for the transportation of the salt.

I am D^r Sir &c

Colonel Parker

RW 893

Mr. Dear Sir,

January 20. 1780

The 5th & 6th regiments are to be incorporated with the 1st & 2nd in such proportions as to make those two equal in numbers.

1st Lt. Col. Scott, Major Puckney
2nd Lt. Col. Marion, Commandant, Major Harlepton
3rd Lt. Col. Thompson, Lt. Col. Henderson, if he accepts, if not Henry, Major Hyne.

It is the sense of the majority of the regiments that the Captains to fill up the retained ones be appointed by the field officers after they should be elected by the Governor. We have agreed that the three regiments be commissioned wth field Officers as above. You will therefore please to collect the sentiments of the said Officers & report to the Captains for filling up the line as soon as possible — and as soon as you can complete this business you will please to report to the Governor who will give commissions according to the return you make.

You will please to order all the noncommissioned officers and privates of the 5th regiment, now in Town, to join the 1st at the fort and incorporate them with you.

Yours truly
Col. Puckney
Chas. Town Jan 21. 1780.

I have had the pleasure of receiving yours of the 15th. The 5th & 6th regiments are to be reduced; they are to join the 1st & 2nd in such proportions as to make them equal in numbers. The three retained regiments will be officered as follows. viz

1st Lt. Col. Scott, Major Puckney
2nd Lt. Col. Marion, Commandant, Major Harlepton
3rd Lt. Col. Thompson, Lt. Col. Henderson, if he accepts, if not Henry, Major Hyne.

Col. Puckney, will, I suppose, write to you respecting the choice of Captains. I think the mode we have adopted to fill the regiments with field Officers will give the most satisfaction. I expect to appoint Captains viz taking the senior Officers for as the youngest ones are to be reduced, if there are any Captains left out I think there cannot be any objection on them. To have the matter settled in this manner which will least affect the feelings of Officers is an object to be attended to — however I

161. do not wish to influence your judgement in this matter - as I dare say you will do right

St. Catharines

Jan. 18th 1880

RW 895

Chat Town Jan'y 22nd 1880

Sir, I am just honored wth your favor of the 15. by Mr. Jewell - you will give me leave in my turn to ask you to him for the state of matters in this department. I hope his account will be satisfactory. I wish as early as you see this letter that you would leave the command of the troops wth your next office, with orders to march and halt them in Dorchester, and come yourself to Town - we can supply you wth arms, ammunition, Camp kettles, axes &c.

The Governor will pay the militia as agreed by Mr. Rutledge when at your assembly.

Yours Sincerely

Saml. J. See

RW 896

Chat Town January 24. 1880

Sir,

I recd a few days since your favor of the 29. Nov. last of Mr. Mercer - I am convinced that every thing has been done by the board of war to supply the Department, which your exhausted magazines would permit - to have the list sent fully completed is now on its way - I am unhappy to inform you that the vessel sent wth the last stores will not return as soon as you expected owing in the full instance to an aversion in the men to attempt the river until the weather should become more mild - this induced Capt. Legu to go off this bar to take some rum out of a Spanish vessel, stranded near this Town, - in passing from the wreck to his vessel the boat sunk, and wth 12 or 13 others were drowned.

I wish that resolve had passed, which you mention of empowering the Comd^g Agent to import such articles as should be necessary for this Department, as thereby we should receive more of our articles regularly, and you would be saved

RW 898.1

162. from a great deal of trouble

I have nothing new or very particular to communicate. On the 10th a ship was seen off this bar said to be from New York to Georgia with troops on board - by some signals thrown out, we supposed that she was part of the fleet expected in Savannah to reinforce that post - but as we have heard nothing since we are quite at a loss to know what she was - a few days will clear up this matter. I am D^r in D^r &c

Thos. Pickens Esq

Charl Town January 24. 1780

Dear Sir,

I have been honored with your very obliging favors of the 9th & 15th ultims

The information sent by them gave me the highest satisfaction, and cannot fail, if ever an idea was entertained here that this country was not properly supported by Congress to remove such suspicions, and give the people confidence in their representatives, and evidence their impartial attachment to the United States

On the 10th instant a ship was seen off this Bar said to be from New York bound to Georgia wth troops on board - by signals she threw out we were ready to believe she was one of the fleet intended to reinforce the enemy in Georgia - but as we have heard nothing of her, or of any other ships since, we are in doubt wth respect to the matter - two of our frigates, and the french ships are going out to see what discoveries they can make - there has not been water for the french to go out before, and our ships were out of repair -

You mention that the quota of the taxes is to be kept here - but large draughts have been already made here for purchasing rice to

163 sent Northward — the whole would have been for short-
of the necessary expenditures on the Department. This
you will be convinced of when you consider what prop:
of the Army will be here — I am therefore to signifi-
that we might have a draught on the approaching
State, otherwise we shall remain in the utmost distress
for I am informed that the sum raised here by the
last tax is not more than half the sum Congress
expected — We wait not your impatience for the
other stores sent for — I am sorry to inform you
that you may not expect soon the vessel, which
brought the last stores — Capt. Leger after having
his vessel fixed, informed me that his people were
not be persuaded to return to Philad^a until more
mild weather, for that he could not get into the
river if he should attempt it — He therefore ran
fast without the bar to take some rum out of a
Spanish vessel on shore to the N^wward of the bar
— in going from the wharf to his vessel, the boat sunk
in which was Capt. Leger, Capt. Sullivan of this
town, and 10 or 12 others — all were drowned — I shall
not write to the Committee of this opportunity
for I have nothing to mention, but what I
have observed above — You will please to show
them this letter — I am &c Sir &c

Yours John Matthews Esq

RW 899 (2)

Dear Sir,

Charl^{town} January 26. 1780

It no longer remains a doubt but that
the enemy in Savannah will be soon if they are
not already ^{strongly} reinforced, for a Brig was yesterday
decoyed into this harbour, from New York to
Savannah, — She sailed the 26 or 27 of Dec^r left
from the Hook in company with 3-74, 3-64, 1-54,
1-40, a frigate with a number of transports, stor

RW 902 (1)

164. ships, and the vessels to the amount of about ninety
bombs as it was said, for Georgia and that they parted
and the fleet off Cape Hatteras steering S. S. W. the beginning
of the month — the 10th one ship was seen off this bar
and officers on board bound for Savannah —

This information so fully ascertains what
has for some time been conjectured, viz that the enemy
mean y^e subjugation of this State, that it would be
the highest imprudence in us not to guard as much
as possible against the worst — I therefore have to
request that Your Excellency would give the most pointed
orders to your Officers to collect and march the
troops ordered to this State wth all possible dispatch
for although large reinforcements have been ordered
from the main army to reinforce this — yet they
may not be expected in time.

Governor Laporte

I am D^r Sir Y^r

I am also to request that every assistance
may be given to your troops on their march from
the main army wth will facilitate their speedy arrival —
Give me leave also to reiterate m^y wish to
you that in case of an attack on this state, a
number of men may be kept in arms, in the frontier
of your State to prevent the embodying of the Tories —
Chas Town January 24. 1780

By what we learn from a vessel brought in here
yesterday, it no longer remains a doubt but that y^e enemy
mean soon to invade this State — The latter end of Dec^r
a large fleet, with a number of troops on board, some say 10,000
left y^e Hook conveyed by 9 ships of war, 6 of them of y^e line,
destined for Savannah, from which place we may expect
them here — your early arrival would add much to our
safety, and is an event most ardently wished for — I
therefore must intreat you to march y^e troops under your
command wth all possible dispatch to this place —

I am Sir Y^r

Three copies of the above letter —
were sent to the Officers commanding the Virginia, & to the line
and troops marching from y^e main army, and the troops
on their march from Petersburg to the Town —

165. Gentlemen,
Yesterday the Eagle pilot boat, manned by part
of the crew of the Quail of France, and acting as a Tender to
the Contin^t. Frigate here, decoyed a Brig into this harbour
bound from New York to Savannah wth some boxes of clothing
on board, some horse furniture &c. not to a great amount,
she was 14 guns, and was a short time since taken and
carried into N. York, belonged to Connecticut, 5 or 6 months ago,
- By the people on board we learn that they left the
Hook the latter end of Decem^r with a fleet of about 30
sail in the whole convoyed by the following ships, Europa
Rappel, Rockwell, Robust, Renown, Reasonable, Defiance,
Romulus, and Perseus - bound to Georgia wth troops on
board - I think it cannot longer remain a doubt
even in the most incredulous minds, but that this
State is the object of the enemies intention - and that
Languor which has too fully possessed the minds
of some few, from an idea of perfect security, will
now be left in the most spirited exertions for their own
defence, and that of the State - I have requested
the Governors of Virginia and N. Carolina to give
every assistance to the troops marching from the
Grand Army, which they may need to facilitate
their early arrival -

The Committee of Correspondence Sam^l Esq^r of Va

Char^t Town Jan^y 24th 1780

Sir, By a vessel decoyed in here yesterday bound
from New York to Savannah we learn that she
sailed from the Hook the latter end of Decem^r
in company wth a fleet of about 30 sail, bound to
Georgia, wth troops on board, the number uncertain
or who command, of which I were sure of Battle
ships besides one 54 one 40 and one frigate, and
that she parted with them off Cape Hatteras in a
storm - It seems nearly reduced to a certainty
that this State is their object, and probably a
descent will be made upon it before an expected

Reinforcements from the main army can arrive
I have therefore to request your Excellency's attention
to this matter, and that every aid to a speedy march
may be given to the troops.

To secure this State is an object
of so much importance and the loss of it would
effectually wound the peace and happiness of
our neighboring States that I rely on it that you
will excuse my making this application.

I have the honor to be &c
Governor Jeffers

My Dear General, X X Chat Town January 23rd 1780

I had a few days since the honor of your
favor of the 12th ultimo by Colonel Laurens, announcing that
the Virginia line were ordered to this Department, than which
nothing could be more acceptable, having that of their not
being needed — their speedy arrival is an event most
anxiously waited for — By our late accounts from Philad.^a
and from a large ship being seen off this Bar on the 10th ult.
troops on board, said to be from New York to Savannah,
we are led to believe that the enemy will be early rein-
forced in Georgia — from that idea, and from a belief
that this Town will be the Object, which will claim their
first attention, I have requested the Governor of this State to
order into Augusta a number of his militia to relieve
the Continental troops there — all of which I mean to draw, as
far as possible, into such posts as will facilitate their
being known suddenly to a point — I find myself
greatly embarrassed to know what ground to occupy,
— for, if we draw them into this town, or in its vicinity,
and the enemy should attempt the same route as the last
year, we shall lose the advantages of opposing them at
several strong passes between this town and 7^e Savannah.
If we should throw the troops near that river,
from an idea that the enemy will cross it, and, instead

107. of that, they should take shipping, and land between me
and this Town, then we shall be out of it — the consequence
of which, would I think be its loss — besides, if we keep
the Troops near this Town, and the enemy land toward
of the bar, they will, in that case, probably reach Haddrell's
point before us, and thereby Fort Moultrie will be in danger.
— If we divide our few Troops before we are strongly
inforced, there will be danger that we shall be beaten in
Detachment —

It is, my Dear Sir, among my first misfortunes
that I am not near enough to Your Excellency to have
the advantage of your advice and direction in these matters
— but this I cannot enjoy — I feel my own insufficiency and
want of experience — I can promise you nothing but a
disposition to serve my Country — If this Town should
be attacked, as now threatened, I know my duty will call
me to defend it as long as opposition can be of any
avail — I hope my inclination will coincide with
my duty —

If the enemy mean seriously to attack this
Town, I think previous threats they will have their effect:
— namely in the back parts of this Country to stimulate the
Indians, and the unfriendly to acts of hostility — we
have therefore to guard against their baneful influence
as much as possible — for this purpose it is necessary
that we at all times keep a Body of men in arms near
the inland frontiers — I have requested the Governor
of N. Carolina immediately on the attack on this Town
to embody a number of militia, and march them towards
the frontiers of his State, where there are many disaffec-
ed people — as they would not only quell any disturb-
ance there, but, in case they should not be needed
for that purpose, they might march this way, and
serve as a reinforcement to us —

Two of ours, and the French Frigate
are going out to see what discoveries they can make
— they would have gone sooner, but the French ships
had not water over the bar, and ours were out of
repair — I have requested the Governor of Virginia
to order shoes, stockings, and other clothing to be

MS. I will be the first on their march, and that he would
be willing to let them have their future supply. I wish, if
you approve of the application that you would sup-
port it.

I am very sorry that Colonel Laurens, after
waiting a number of days could not get a passport
by water as he expected - for, thereby, his letter to you
of the 1st of being first was long detained, and the con-
sequence was that you need y^e information of our
sailing y^e day before Savannah from Congress, when
you ought to have had from me - - Though I was in
doubt that I had given too great evidence of my
attachment to you to believe that it was from a
deliberate neglect - yet I could not so fully rely on the
candor of the world, and was afraid that it would be
imputed to my disadvantage, and that some might attempt
to pervert your Excellency that I have not really that
attachment and esteem, which I always have expressed.
I hope that no such attempt has been made - for
nothing could be more insidious.

Since I began this letter, what was
before conjecture is now reduced to a certainty - viz
that the enemy mean a descent on this State, which
probably will happen soon. Yesterday a vessel was
sighted into this harbor by a ~~British~~ to our continent.
Sloop bound from N. York to Savannah in company
with a fleet of about ninety sail bound to that port.
Among the following ships Europa, Despatch, Rufel
Robust, Columbus, Renown, Reasonable, Rockwell and
Cerberus. She was separated from the fleet off Cape
Fatteries in a storm about 20 days since. She has
on board a few bales of clothing, some furniture &c.
but the whole, as it is said, of inconsiderable amount.
Passengers in her one lieutenant and one Esquire, besides the
other Captains, 5 privates of Robinson's Corps. This
news has induced me to write to Governor Jefferson &
Lafayette, requesting them to give every possible

169. assistance to facilitate the march of y^e troops ordered
from the main army to reinforce this

Genl Washington

RW 287 (1)

I have the honor to be recd

U.S. I am your most obedt servant sailing vessels to the
Savannah and to Count de Graaf announcing the
arrival of y^e British armament in Georgia - hoping
that they will give them some direction

Chas Towne Jan^y 28. 1780.

Sir,

Your letter of 7th 19th and 22nd I have recd
and will wth great pleasure give every assistance in
my power necessary to y^e relief of Mr. Wether and
the other prisoners in y^e hands of the enemy in y^e
island of Antigua, and would have before now sent
to Savannah for a permission for a flag - but
have not seen the Captⁿ you mention would
call on me, nor learn'd his name and the name
of the vessel intended to be sent, both of w^{ch} are
necessary as they are to be named in the pass
- however I will in the interim send to Mr. Telfair
who can make y^e attempt without, if he succeed
it will be well

I am full in sentiment that it will
not only to pay some but great attention to the
advice of y^e Citizens and especially to those of
them, who have evidenced the most unshaken
attachment to y^e cause of their Country, and
the common interest of y^e United States - and
I am always unhappy when I differ from
those in Opinion, and am led to suspect my
own judgement, and to act under these circum-
stances wth great precaution - but if after ex-
hausted and most impartial enquiry the result
is a confirmation of my first ideas, I am

RW 287 (1)

176) explained to act in obedience to them, and especially when "responsibility" lies on my shoulders. I intend to remove some of the Troops from Augusta to one of the camps above mentioned, I have therefore carefully reviewed the matter and taken the sentiments of eight Officers of the line, one Brig. General and seven Colonels — they were unanimous of opinion that to remove 3^d Virginia Troops from Augusta is highly proper and essential to the service — I thank you for your kind wishes and am wth respect &c

Wmth Col. Walton

Charl Town Jan 28. 1780

Sir,

The strength situation and probable designs of y^r enemy, who are now very strongly reinforced make it necessary that you should remove wth y^r Virginia Troops under your command to Milledon, where you will receive further orders — You will therefore on y^r rec^t of this letter march wth all possible despatch to that place your letter of y^e 24th I have rec^d, but as y^e bearer is waiting I must defer answering it

I am &c

Wmth Carter and
Major Sampson

Charl Town Jan 28. 1780

Sir,

I yesterday rec^d your letter of y^e 22nd inst^l requesting that I would continue Col. Carter longer in your State — I immediately summoned a Council of Officers, who met this morn^g and after full consideration of y^e matter they were unanimously of opinion that the removal of the Continent^l Troops from Augusta into this State, was a measure highly proper and essential to the service — I have to lament that such is our public state, and so few our Troops, that we cannot

give that succour to the different States, which their
security makes necessary — the troops will be
collected to a point — the movement of the enemy
must govern ours — if the frontier should be
their principal object, our force will be thrown
into that country. I am Sir &c
Wm Blapack Esq.

Speaker of the Assembly of Georgia

Chas. Town 30 Jan 1780

The enemy having been lately very strongly
reinforced in Georgia by the arrival of a large fleet
from New York with troops on board said to be
commanded by Sir Henry Clinton in person, we
have every reason to expect they will in a
short time commence their operations against
this State in great force — you will therefore
use every exertion to hasten the arrival of the
troops under your command ordered to this
place, and I am persuaded the interesting
state of matters here will urge you to the
greatest dispatch I am Sir &c
Genl. Hagan, Scott, and

Officers commanding the diff. Detachments from
the main army to Chas. Town

RW 916

Chas. Town Jan 18. 1780
Sir, your letters of the 19th and 23rd instant I
have received — I have hourly expected the Capt.
you intended to send as a flag would have called
upon me — but have heard nothing from him
Genl. Ousoff should know his name and name
of the vessel to be sent — However Mr. Telfair may
make the attempt without, if he succeeds I shall
be glad, if not, when I see the Captain a second
one must be made — Before you receive
one must be made — Before you receive

RW 916(1)

It is the you will hear of the arrival of the British fleet
in the Savannah - they have brought with them a
large force estimated from five to twelve thousand
men - it is said Lord Clinton commands in person
Our frigates have taken three vessels which were
part of the fleet one brig and two sloops - the
brig had some few clothing on board and about
10 people including the sailors - the sloops had
about 30 Dragoons on board and the furniture
for 45 horses which they set out, but had left
all but two - I am Sir &c

Yours Truly

Chas. Town Jan 28. 1780

Sir, Herewith you will receive a letter to Lord
Pitt in which I have requested a letter from
him to the Governor of Antigua, on the subject
of releasing the Prisoners there - and have requested
your commanding Officer at the Sisters to put you
across the river - I have no reason to think that
you will be admitted into Savannah, yet I think
you can find in, and receive an answer -

Edward Telfair Esq

I am Sir, &c

Dr Sir

Chas. Town Jan 29. 1780

Since I did myself the honor of addressing
your Excellency under the 24 instant our frigates
are returned from a cruise - By them I learn
that they discovered some ships off Port Royal, and
that their tender saw many others off Tybee, some
of them appeared to be ships of war - On their re-
turn the frigates took two sloops, part of the fleet,
which left the Hook the 26 ultimo - they had about
45 Dragoons on board, with 45 horses and furniture
for them all the horses were lost but two - From
the Prisoners we are informed that the fleet consisted
of 140 sail bound to Georgia, with a large number of
troops on board, some say 10,000 and that General

173. Clinton commands in person. I am not certain as to their exact numbers, and who commands — yet that they are in very great force cannot be questioned, or that the preservation of this State is their object, to defeat which depends so much on the exertions of yours — that I cannot help repeating my request that the full number of men ordered may be sent forward with all possible dispatch, and that they may, if possible be convinced that too much depends on their present exertions, and that their own safety and happiness are too nearly connected with the salvation of this State to justify their refusal to march to its assistance notwithstanding whatever small circumstances of difficulty may intervene. ^{see page 183.}

Governor Lapwell

I am &c Sir &c

Chas. Wm. Jan 7 28. 1780

Dear Sir,

What has hitherto been conjecture with regard to the movements and designs of the enemy seems now to be reduced to a certainty — they are most certainly arrived in Georgia with a large force — some say Genl Clinton commands — there is great reason, I think, to conclude this is true — if so, as there is nothing which can justify his coming out, but his having with him the greatest part of y^e British army in America — nothing I think can authorize one moment's delay in putting this State, and especially this Town, in the most ample posture of defence — I suspect w^t this idea, and y^e importance of the measure I am to request that Your Excellency would order in 1500 Negroes in the vicinity of this Town with the necessary tools for throwing up lines,

174. immediately to assemble — in the mean time I hope
all the inhabitants of this place will, as they regard
their own safety and happiness, and the preservation
of their property, be induced personally to give every
assistance in fortifying y^e Town ^{in which y^e Army shall be} ^{as soon as y^e Lines, wth great pleasure I will give every}
vacant moment to this business. The article of provision also is an
object, on which y^e salvation of y^e Garrison may
depend — I have to request also the aid of the
Civil to secure a sufficiency of rice in Town, which
shall be a supply for ten thousand men for three
months, and that all the Stock now on the Island
and on the sea coasts, may be immediately secured
for the use of the Garrison, if this Town should become
one — and I must desire that all the boats north
and south of y^e Bar to the distance of 40 or 50
miles may be immediately taken and brought to
Town — By this we shall not only deprive the
enemy from securing them for their own advantage
— but they will be thrown into our hands to be
employed as we shall think necessary —

I cannot help mentioning also
that some Asylum be provided for the women,
Children, the aged, infirm, and all useless mouths,
that they may be out of Town, and that no cir-
cumstance may remain which will induce to a
surrender of this Town, in case of a siege, more
early than the distress brought on the Troops
should make it necessary —

Governor Rutledge I am Dear Sir Y^r Obedt^{serv}

Chas. Town Sunday 29. 1754

M.

I had the honor of your Excellency's favor of the 25th instant, covering the copy of a letter to the Chev^e de la Marine and a report of Congress of the same date. When the subject of these papers claimed the attention of your Body, such, I presume, was the situation of the enemy in New York as to make it uncertain whether they would reinforce their troops in Georgia or not — but this has been done from the best information we can obtain, so fully that we shall be diverted from a prosecution of the plans proposed by Congress — However, should there be a time, when their wishes can be executed, you will give me leave to assure them that nothing in my power shall be wanting to answer their expectations —

Upon receiving intelligence that a fleet was nigh this coast, and that they had been dispersed by the late inclement weather, the Providence and Ranger put to sea on the 24th with an intention to discover their strength & situation and pick up such straggling vessels as had been separated from their convoy — They ran as far forward as Port Royal Bar, where they fell in wth a number of ships at anchor — The Leader of the Contin^g ships went within sight of Tybee, off which they saw a number of large ships supposed to be men of war, and many smaller vessels — From these circumstances and the information of the prisoners taken in two sloops (captured by the Providence & Ranger) which had on board upwards of 40 Dragoons, we conclude that the account of a fleet having sailed from New York for Georgia is true, and that

176 - a great part of them have arrived - as there
is nothing in that State for them to subdue, the
reduction of which would justify the expense of so
large an armament, we must suppose they
extend their views farther, and that the subjugation
of this State is their object, to defeat which, will
require our utmost exertions - we lament the
want of a force which would afford us more
certain hopes of success, and look forward with
impatience to the day, when the reinforcements from
the Main Army and Genl Scott shall arrive -

About one thousand of the North Carolina
Militia have joined us - what farther numbers
may be expected is quite uncertain - for although
that State seems disposed to give every possible
aid to this and Georgia - yet they have their
difficulties to encounter in the humours of the militia
and their aversion to service, and the want of money
to pay them their promised bounty -

We shall send immediately a fast
sailing vessel to Havana wth dispatches for the
Governor giving the information we have recd
of the enemy's movements, and their intentions as
far as we have obtained them - hoping that he
will be able to give them some diversion - I shall
also inform him of the resolution of Congress re-
specting the reduction of the British force in Georgia,
and the conquest of Florida, and of my readiness
to concur with him in such plans as shall most
likely tend thereto, the moment a favorable opportunity shall offer
His E^xcy S. Huntington Esq. I am Sir Y^{rs}
Presid^t in Congress

111 Dear Sir

Charl Town Jan 30 1780

from our own inconsiderable
force the little prospect of an early reinforcement
from the north, the strength of the enemy, and the
evidence we have that the resources of the
State as their object. To suggest that our defense
may be in part supplied by some Blacks
agreeable to the expected recommendations of Congress
I know that it has once already been under con-
sideration of the assembly, and that a negative
circumstances were at that time very different
from what they now are, and what I now regard
then as a provident measure, ought now to be
adopted as an absolutely necessary one - former
arguments, which in the former debate were urged
in opposition to the measure, have lost their force
by the enemies example in the defense of Savannah
- I therefore cannot but hope that the recom-
mendation will now be complied with - should it be
again rejected, I beg that the State would raise
one thousand Blacks, arm them to the sword
act as soldiers, and to assist in all the public
duties of the Governor
I am Sir, Your
Governor Rutledge

RW 919

Charl Town Jan 30 1780

Dear Sir,

I have just rec'd a letter from the
honble B. Lemaire, representing that the french
ships have left this coast, in one of which he
to have taken passage for Europe - That his
commission is of the first importance to the
United States, and the duties of it to be executed
without delay - That he had reason to expect
a frigate would be sent him to accommodate
him and his family across the Atlantic, and in
which some article of merchandise might be

RW 912(1)

to be shipped to realize a sum of money in France for
the public service — That it is his opinion one of
the ships now here was sent for this purpose — but
that through some mistake no information on the
matter has come to hand — for that Congress ordered
but three ships for the defence of this part of
the United States, and four are arrived — It appears
to me probable that one of y^r ships was sent here
on this business — but as in the instruction to the
Commodore from the Marine Committee they make
no distinction but are all put under the direction
of the Commanding Officer here — I have my doubts
as to the propriety of my ordering one of them
without being advised thereto by the executive of this
State — I wish to know their opinion on the matter

Governor Rutledge

I am D^r Sir,

Your most obed^t serv^t

Dear Sir,

Charl^l Town Jan^y 30. 1780.

By your instructions you will observe
that you were sent here wth y^r frigate under
your command as a protection to this part of
the United States — and I have no doubt of your real
and that of your officers in y^r common cause, or of
your exertions for the defence of this State — You
will be, if possible, to prevent the enemy from entering
the harbour, if that should be impracticable,
you will in the next place oppose them at Fort
Mifflin — I have been lately informed that
with an easterly wind and flood tide, it will be
impossible for a ship to lie wth her broadside to the
entrance of y^r bar — to ascertain this matter
is of importance — you will therefore as early

179. It is possible to have the internal part of the harbor
commanded by some of your Officers and the rest by
you can obtain; and the advantage of the harbor is
that, you will please, in company with the Captains of
the several ships, to reconnoitre the entrance of this
harbour, and see whether there is a possibility
of the ships laying in such a manner as to command
the passage, and leave their station wth safety to
themselves, if it should become necessary. When
your Captains have enquired and considered of the
matter you will be so good as to report your
opinions. I am Dr Sir Yca

Commodore Whipple

Charl Town January 29 1781

RW 917(2)

Sir,

One of our Vessels was in November left to the
and carried into Antigua, wth a number of passengers
on board — it being represented that a flag from
the Continent will not be rec^d there, but under
sanction of the Officer commanding the British
Forces in Y^t Southern District — Mr. Edward Telfair
waits on your Excy for the purpose of obtaining
a letter to Y^t Governor of that Island by which an
exchange of those people may be effected.

General Prevost

I have the honor to be Yrs

RW 915

Dear Sir,

Charl Town Jan 30. 1781

The satisfaction I some time since
received in being informed that you intended
should occasion require, to head five hundred
volunteers who would march to the relief of the
State, is increased in the reflection, that at this
interesting period, when the enemy, who have lately
been reinforced by a large armament from New
York said to be commanded by Sir Henry Clinton
in person, are expected in a very short time to

RW 920

1804. I hope the request of the State, so zealous a
friend to American freedom may be relied on. at
in the hour of danger, and his aid expected at so
critical a conjuncture — let me conjure you, my
Dear Sir, to hasten with your Volunteers to our
relief — their early arrival will add greatly to our
safety — I may be among the happy ones of
your safety — I am Dr Sir Y^{ca}

General Putnam Chat Town Jan 7 28th 1780.

AW 923

Dear Sir,

Doctor Halling will do himself the
pleasure to deliver you this — He left Philad.^a as a
surgeon to me (I then needed one) but on my leg
getting better, and Genl. A^{ph} wanting a surgeon, the
Doctor at my request joined him, and was taken
prisoner on the 3^d of March at Briar Creek, where
he left his baggage — he is informed that your
State has made a consideration to those under his
circumstances — If so, give me leave to recommend
the Doctor to the same indulgence — for he joined
Genl. A^{ph} rather from an expectation of rendering
service than from any other view — He discharges
his duty while with that force wth attention, and
judgement — To the Doct^r I beg leave to refer
your Excellency for news — I am Dr Sir Y^{ca}

Governor Caswell

Chat Town Jan 7 31st 1780.

Furthermore, I had last evening the honor of
your favor of 27th ultimo by Mr. Rutledge, who
recd it at Wilmington on his return from Hick's
ford (I don't know when your express is) — The
fleet you mention as having sailed from New
York, have probably most of them arrived in

181 in Georgia - Many vessels have been seen off the coast, and fourteen ships at one time off Cape. I have information from Savannah of the number of some vessels there, but what number is not yet ascertained. By the prisoners taken in the vessels which I mention to Congress we are informed that 140 sail came out with a large body of troops on board, and by some of them that Sir H. Clinton commands in person, others that Lord Cornwallis. Though we cannot yet learn either the number of troops, or by whom commanded, yet from every circumstance, it appears that they are in great force - when I can obtain a more satisfactory account of these matters I will transmit it.

I hope Congress have announced to the Court de Graaf, and to Governor of the Savannah, the sailing of this fleet - perhaps it may be in their power to give some diversion to the enemy.

You desire to know our situation and force, - our number is so small, that had it not been required, I should not dare to mention it under our present circumstances - we have of Continental troops including those of this State, N. Caro. and Virginia about 1400 fit for duty - and about 1000 N. Caro. militia - this is all our force, and more we may not soon expect.

Major Clarkson, one of my aids, set out this morning to the Governor of N. Carolina to solicit speedy and large reinforcements, & to hasten the march of the troops on the road - for this purpose also I am sending express on the different routes - The French frigate a few days since left us for France, - ~~Dumouriez~~ could not be persuaded to remain longer here.

By a late report I have had

the frigates cannot by all their broadsides
be the entrance of the bar when a gully wind and
fast tide will have defined the channel fully
to prevent the entrance of a fleet of men true,
the frigates cannot take any the station from
which they could so effectually annoy the enemy -
Besides, if they are removed from the Bar, it will
give the British ships a safe harbour within it, and
out of the reach of our shot

Committee of Correspondence Saml Bent & Co

Charl Towne Aug. 30. 1780

Since I did myself the honor to address your
Excellency on the 24th our frigates have returned
from a short cruise - By what they discovered, &
the information of the Prisoners taken on board
two sloops part of y^e fleet w^t about 45 Dragoons
on board (their horses were shipped in y^e same
sloops, but were all lost on y^e pass^a but two) which
were brought in by them, the enemy are now in
very great force at Savannah - It is said by
some that Genl Clinton commands in person - if so
I think it is probable that y^e majority of the
British forces is with him - to counteract his
designs will require every exertion on our part
and call for the speedy arrival of the intended
reinforcements to us from the main Army - to
facilitate which, I beg leave again to request
your Excellency's aid

Governor Jefferson

Saml Bent & Co

183. ²^d Governor Caswell's letter continued from page 173.
Since closing the above Mr Rutledge has informed
him I am informed that the common expressions
are so dilatory, and unfaithful that no dependence
can be placed in them, and that they spread
and groundless reports in y^e County that the
are leaving Georgia &c so that the necessary
are not made by the people from a belief that their
services are not needed here — To prevent
delay at this critical period, and that we may
reap all the advantages of a just representation
of matters — I have desired Major Clarkson one of
my family to become the Bearer of this — he is
well acquainted wth our real situation — from
his mouth you will receive a just and impartial
account of y^e affairs in this State, and all
of the enemies force and situation in Georgia —
If it should be necessary he will call on the
assembly — I had a few days since information
from Gen^l Rutherford that in case of necessity
he would embody 500 Volunteers, and march them
to our assistance — the time seems to be fast
approaching when they will be really needed
this kind offer on his part, and being informed
by Mr Rutledge that he had requested leave
from you to suffer us to call on him if his
services were necessary, without first applying
to your Excellency — has induced me to send
to him "desiring that he would march as
soon as possible with the troops he proposed

Governor Caswell

184 Chat Town Jan 28 1780

Doctor Halling will do himself the
pleasure to deliver this - he attended me with
great diligence and care - from him I received
every assistance I could expect from the Surgeon
and the humane man - He, on my recommendation
and at my desire joined Genl. Aft. and was un-
der the British taken prisoner in March last - Since
his liberation he has been employed as a senior
Surgeon in 2^d hospital here, and has discharged
his duty wth judgement, and to the approbation of
the Quarter, who wishes to retain him - but the
Doctor's inclination is so great to return that he
cannot be persuaded to remain -

While the Doctor was in captivity
and since he recd in hard capt the sum of
sterling for which he will account wth Genl. Conway
of Prisoners according to custom he has recd his
pay and subsistence - he will account with you
for 2500 Dollars, which he has recd to defray
the expences of his journey -

I am Dr Sir Y^{ca}

Doctor Happon

R 2907

Chat Town Jan 31st 1780

The state of affairs is such as to make it
necessary that we draw our force to a point as much
as soon as possible - No troops will be kept in
the field except 200 light infantry and the Hops
you will therefore please to select from the three
regiments, with you, 200 of your best men and
the best clothed and organise them into a
battalion wth proper Officers - all the remainder wth the

185 baggage of the whole family such as is necessary
necessary for the light troops with march immediately
to this town — you will please to take y^e command
of the light Infantry untill Colonel Henderson arrives,
which I expect will be in a few days, after that
I wish to see you as soon as may be in this town.

Cross will deliver you this m^o a letter
to Colonel Parker, and another to Major Sampson,
you will find them on towards Augusta in the
common route by four horsemen — two will guide
Col. Parker by y^e shortest way to this town — the
other two will guide Major Sampson to your
camp —

I am for &c

Col. Marion

RW 922(2)

For, Charleston Feb 3. 1780 —

A few days since I recd a letter from Congress
intimating the designs of his Catholic Majesty against
the Floridas, and the inclination of Congress I should
Spain through Your Excellency, or otherwise, assist
the American arms wth a naval force and
troops sufficient to regain Georgia / to co-operate
with them in the reduction of East Florida
and have authorised me to correspond, and
concert wth Your Excellency such plans as shall
be best calculated to insure success in y^e execution.

It is with great pleasure that I enter
in this business with you, being persuaded
that every thing in Your Excellency's power
will be done to promote the views of his Catholic
Majesty and those of Congress. The enemy's
late reinforcements in Georgia have put it in
their power to act offensively, and in my opinion
this state is their object — I have, therefore,

RW 925(1)

186 requested Mr. H. C. Durant to wait on your
Excellency to solicit your aid in behalf of this State
and commisioned him to agree with you, or such
person as have been or may be properly appointed
upon such measures as shall be judged most
conducive to the reduction of Georgia and the
conquest of East Florida.

I flatter myself that by his attentive
knowledge and candor, he will render himself agreeable
and honor his appointment.

The Governor of the Havana.

I have the honor to be
Y^r ca

fr

Char. Town Feb 4th 1780

In your negociation with the Governor of
Havana agreeable to my commision to you of
the 3^d instant you will demand the following
objects viz:

- 1st a naval force superior to that of the enemy on
our coasts - to cruise between Cape Roman and Cape
Florida - or otherwise act as will be thought best.
- 2nd such a land force (not exceeding 4000 effective)
as when united to ours will give us a superiority
over the enemy.
- 3rd 30 battering pieces of artillery 24 & 18 pounders
- 4th six mortars from 10 to 13 inches
- 5th a suitable ordnance store for that artillery
including travelling carriages for heavy pieces -
- 6th 1000 spades & shovels, 500 felling axes, 100 hoes -
- 7th a suitable camp equipage for the troops &
every other necessary for them, saving fresh beef
and rice, a supply of which may be had here.
- 8th some spare coils of rigging from 1 to 4 inches

Y^r ca
R. W. 2271

187 1/2th. America, having accordingly with three entire
Georgia 4000 men, 2nd ginch mortars - 6-12 & 18 pounders
15 field pieces, and the necessary ordnance stores for them
all waggons, horses, and gear for transporting
the baggage, ordnance and stores, will be supplied by
the United States -

If our attempts should be crowned with success
in Georgia; after leaving proper garrisons for the
security of Carolina and Georgia, the troops may
then proceed to St Augustine, wth a suitable train
of light artillery, ammunition, and provisions for
themselves, and every supply in our power to those
of Spain -

If it is found necessary, you may engage
to furnish the Spanish troops wth rice only to the
amount of One thousand barrels to enable them to
operate against East Florida, after the reduction of
the English troops in Georgia -

With regard to the number of men that can
be marched in their behalf into East Florida
after the 1st operation it will not be below 2000

In order to prevent confusion in command
The commanding Officer of the troops of the United
States will have the general direction of the
siege of Savannah and of the movements of
the combined forces while acting in Georgia - and
the commanding Officer of the Spanish force
shall have the direction of the siege of St Augustine
and of all the movements of the said United forces
while operating in East Florida -

In case the last mentioned province
shall be conquered by the United arms of Spain
and America, the United States will have no
claim to any of the lands within the acknowledged
limits of it - If in the same manner Georgia
is retaken by the said United arms of Spain
and America - Spain will have no claims

188 to any part of the land situated within the
known legal limits of its appurtenance to the now
possession of its — nor to those lands since purchased
of the Indians and annexed to that State —

Spain will send a force and lay siege to
San Juan de los Rios, and by that means the enemy's force
is drawn from Georgia, as the remainder shall
be reduced by the arms of the United States, they
will lend their aid in the conquest of East Florida
if that should after become necessary and practicable.

You will remember, Sir, that those observations
are founded on an idea that the enemy's force is
the same as when the resolutions of Congress were
entered into for the reduction of Georgia & E. Florida
— but as we have the highest reasons to believe
that the enemy are thoroughly reinforced, and that
the reduction of this State is their object, you will
immediately solicit the Governor of Havana to
give us speedily as possible, the aid of a number
of men covered by some line of battle ships —
you will enforce that measure as necessary not
only to our safety, but to the future peace
and happiness of the Spanish Islands — for
if Britain should possess herself of this Town and
Harbour it would be difficult, if not impossible
to regain it — the evils which would thereby re-
sult to Spain are too conspicuous to need point-
ing out — The Master of the Eagle will take
your orders upon all occasions — and you may
either keep her in the harbour, untill your ne-
gociation is completed, or order her back to us
in case you find it necessary to communicate
some important intelligence I am Sir &c
Colonel Tennant

Charl. Town Jan. 27. 1780

My Dear General,

Since I did myself the honor to write you on y^e instant I have rec^d a letter from the Presid^t of Congress, and resolve of that Body empowering me to correspond with the Governor of Havana, and with him to plan, adjust, and carry into execution measures for the reduction of Georgia and then to extend our operations to y^e conquest of east Florida — When this passed Congress, I presume we did not credit the report that the enemy intended so fully to reinforce their troops in Georgia as effectually to secure it and to act offensively wth a probability of success against this — that these are their intentions from y^e daily appearance of ships off this bar standing forward cannot I think be reasonably questioned — but as that is not yet reduced to a certainty, and as Savannah with y^e aid of Spain may be ours I shall make a few observations on an exped^t to E. Florida, and point out some of the difficulties which may attend it, and my ideas of a mode to obviate them — I do it now my dear Gen^l from an expectation that there may be time if you approve of my ideas, to forward from Congress every measure to carry it into execution, in which I am sure of your aid — I shall be more particular in this matter than I otherwise would because Congress have received, and have now I suppose on their files, plans on w^{ch} an exped^t against St. Augustine ought to be conducted — these have made impressions on their minds which lay me under an obligation of pointing out in y^e first place, the few errors therein — that what I have to offer on y^e subject may more forcibly take effect.

When I left Congress in October 1778, they put into my hands y^e observations of two Sen^{rs} of known abilities on y^e situation and strength of St. Augustine the number of men necessary for an exped^t against it &c. &c. — Marquis de Beringue, one of y^e officers, seems to entertain an idea that an army should be collected

1780 at Savannah at a certain place, six field pieces & six mortars, and marched across land to St. Augustine - and that two or three armed vessels should cover the mouth of the river - that heavy cannon would be unnecessary, an attempt to besiege it in form would be absurd speculation and impossible in its execution - and that by a blockade of three or four months St. Domingo would, from want of supplies be reduced to necessity of surrendering - The other, an anonymous officer, takes of it under different principles - he supposes the troops should be sent by water and St. fort attempted by them

From the knowledge I have obtained of the Country, the difficulties which would attend the marching an army through it - the strength & situation of St. Augustine the means by which St. Domingo can be supplied; the measures to be adopted which would give rational hopes of success in an attempt against it, & the means of returning in case of failure, I think it would be embarrassing and unsafe to attempt an expedition against that province on either of the plans though there are many useful observations in them

To show the impracticability of the former & of danger of the latter, I beg leave to offer the following estimate and observations

The weight of baggage and supplies of one hundred men for one hundred and fifty days the shortest time which can be allotted for the expedition (supposing that 7/8 of the meat be drove) is as follows

Baggage of officers and men	4250
Feed for 100 men 1 st day	15000
Salter provision 1/8 of the time	2400
1/2 Gall of rum 1/2 day, an article indispensable in this climate	2000
1/4 Gall of vinegar 1/2 day	1000
For ammunition	1500
Provision for 20 waggons on the same estimate	3600
	<u>29850</u>

This weight will require 20 waggons / 1500 being a full load in this country / for every hundred men.

191 besides the Hospital, 2^d Master, and artillery waggon
which for a small army is a number, which will far
exceed yr. resources of this country - Besides, were there a
sufficient number to be procured, the want of forage in
the country through which they must travel, most of
it being a mere barren desert is an insuperable objection
to an attempt by land, without yr. aid of shipping - for
no waggon can carry a sufficient quantity of forage
for its own use had they no other load - this article
cannot be dispensed with - the experiment was fully
tried in yr. summer 1778 by Genl. Howe - the consequences
were that by the time the army reached St. Marys, little
more than half yr. distance out, his horses were rendered
unfit for service - knocked on yr. head, and their waggon
burnt - and the troops obliged to return without them,
in which they were assisted by yr. Gallies and some
small vessels otherwise none but the strong could
have effected their retreat, and they without their
baggage - There are some navigable rivers to cross, and
no boats can be carried across land - the necessary delays
in making rafts, and the danger of crossing on them
are objections to an attempt by land, which will
have their weight - Besides St. John's river about
thirty miles from St. Augustine is more than a mile
wide, and very deep, and probably must be passed
in the face of the enemy. (Surely it must if they
do their duty) and the innumerable obstacles, wh.
they may throw in yr. way of an advancing army
thus destitute of supplies are further objections to
the measure - The Marquis is also of opinion
that St. Augustine would soon be obliged to surrender
from want of supplies if an army were before it -
- Even this may be doubted, when it is considered
that if an attempt is made, it must be at a
time when provisions are to be had, and can be

It is said that our approach by the middle of a cross land
might be so gradual that time will be given y^e Spaniards
to make some necessary preparation - but when this &
the unhealthiness of y^e climate is contemplated, a question
arises whether to attempt an expedⁿ from no other
hope of success than from a blockade, in which probably
many lives will be lost, much money expended, and on
the success of which the honor of the State so much
depends, can be justified.

The other Gent^l is of opinion
that y^e attempt should be altogether by water in flat
bottomed boats or private vessels covered by some Gallies
and that y^e fort be attempted by escalade - For this we
ought to have veteran troops even to give a probability
of success - Now, in case of accident to y^e Gallies, and boats
by a superior naval force a retreat could be secured, if
it should become necessary, I know not, to ascertain
which I think will not be deemed a needless enquiry.

If the above remarks are just, that an
army cannot be marched to y^e Augustine across land
without the aid of a naval force - That to prosecute an
expedⁿ against it, solely by water, is unsafe, and to ex-
pect y^e reduction of it in any other way, than by a
regular siege too precarious to be attempted - They
leave to offer y^e following suggestions, as the outlines of
a plan, some of which I think should be followed,
in case an attempt should be made for the reduction
of that fort in conjunction with Spain -

In the first place that
power must supply a naval force sufficient to cover
our Gallies and small craft, all of which could keep
y^e inland navigation, - a sufficient quantity of heavy
cannon and mortars wth y^e necessary ordnance stores - and
aid in men as may be necessary from the strength
of the enemy - Savannah the place of rendezvous
where

193. Should be collected of Salles, a sufficient number of small boats, in which to transport of light ordnance (provided by us) ordnance stores, provision baggage and forage - our troops must be marched as light as possible across land - not in provisions and forage meet them up of Atamaha, and a suitable boat, in which to cross that river - That a small redoubt be built there, which will command of part of the river, in which a garrison must be left and a store of provision and forage. Thence the army should proceed to Little river, where also they would meet another supply of provisions and boats, and where a redoubt, should for the purpose of our aid be erected, and go on to the several rivers to St Augustine and a garrison left at each - they should be employed in building boats to recross in case of necessity and in securing of papers - by this method our rear will be covered and our retreat secure - should any accident happen to our marine - these posts also will be proper stages at which our Dragoons can secure supplies, and safely refresh their cattle, and be assisted in crossing them over the rivers - From the information I have recd of the forts of St Augustine, and of the materials of which they are constructed little advantage will result from battering cannon - therefore few of them only will be necessary - the only effectual mode seems to be that of a siege in form by saps, mines, bombardments &c and that with a number of heavy mortars - for the casemates are exceedingly good in the fort, and by some thought to be Bomb proof & sufficient to cover 3 or 400 men - The General hints similar to some I put into the hands of the delegates of the Mapachupets Bay, I thought necessary to give you and to request your observations on them -

From the last advices we have no reason to expect that the above matter can be attended to, for if ever - for the first object in Savannah is

of now arrived - a considerable part of them at least -
Commander Whipple has taken two sloops with about 50
men on board - they embarked about 45 horses and
provisions for them - they brought in but two horses - the
rest were left in bad weather.

as it is no longer safe to trust the frigates
I have ordered them within the bar as a cover to it
and in collecting the Continent troops to a point near V.
the coast supposing that y^r conquest of the remaining
part of Georgia, cannot be an object of so much
importance as to claim so fully the attention of
Britain as to induce her to send so great a part of
her force to reduce it - surely some more important
object must be her view - I think y^r subjugation
of this State must be in contemplation - on this idea
we are now founding our movements - relying that
y^r ships will cover the harbour and preserve it from
influx - we are paying y^r greatest attention to the
Land-side of the Town - and besides the line I described
in one of my late letters to Your Excellency we have
now in contemplation throwing up a new one about
one mile and half in front of y^r old work - By this
means I think we shall have it in our power to
keep y^r enemy for some time at least from a situation
in which they can annoy the Town, and when these
lines are no longer tenable I think our retreat will
be secure - to y^r inner ones as our flanks will be
covered by a deep marsh.

Y^r Excellency. I have the honor to be &c.
Genl Washington

195. Dear Sir, Chat Town Feb. 7 1780

The Commisary of Issues has put in to my hands your note to him of this morning ordering ten p^{cent} allow^{ce} for shot weight - such a measure never has been practiced to my knowledge in y^e am^r neither do I know any resolve of Congress on w^{ch} such a practice can be justified - the troops have been g^{vt} full allowance; and what has been found sufficient for long experience - if this order should be obeyed it will create an uneasiness in g^t minds of all y^e other troops unless the same allowance is made to them also - I wish therefore, for y^e common good that you would not urge y^e matter - I wish fur^r that if in future any provisions should be thought bad and unfit for use that it might be examined before it is carried from y^e place of issuing - I am too much to be out or would have called on you respecting the matter

I am D^r Sir, &c

Ben^t Lillington

RW 929

Chat Town Feb 7. 1780

D^r Sir, By y^e enclosed copy of a letter from the Gov^r of this State you are requested to take under your direction all the State Vessels named therein - as the safety of this Town makes it necessary that all the Vessels kept for y^e security of the Harbour should be under one direction, and as the ships in case of a siege are to co-operate wth y^e army - I am to join my request to the Governor's desire that you would accept the trust and that you would remain as much as possible consistent wth y^e common good / or should give the necessary directions to fix and arrange the Vessels - any extraordinary expence incurred by this means will be paid you

I am D^r Sir &c

Commodore Whipple

RW 931

Chas. Town Feb 11. 1780.

My dear General,

I have this morning recd information that on 9th instant the enemy landed in Savannah about 8000 troops commanded by Sir H. Clinton - if this is true, we can soon expect them before this Town - for they probably know that we have reinforcements on y^e road from the main army - the works here are by no means completed - it has not been in my power to effect the most desirable purpose.

20 Clock p.m. I have just recd information that a large fleet is off - matters are fast opening, and will I think become very serious.

I have the honor to be Sir,
Genl. Washington

Chas. Town Feb 11. 1780.

Yours,

I have this morning the honor of your favor of the 9th ultimo covering some resolves of Congress. In my last I announced to you y^e arrival of part of y^e enemy's fleet who left Sandy Hook on the 26th Decr last - I have recd information that 150 sail have arrived in y^e Savannah and that the troops said to be 8000 commanded by Sir H. Clinton have landed.

I shall write again in a day or two and have only to add - that I am Sir y^r Obedt^{servant}

Committee of Correspondence

20 Clock p.m. I have just recd information, by the Governor, that a large fleet is off - the wind fair for them to come in - 8 o'clock p.m. - fifty sail of ships this afternoon got into North

Chas. Town

197. Sir,

Charl Town Feb 11. 1780

The accounts I have recd this morning of the arrival of Sir H. Clinton and Lord Cornwallis wth a large Body of troops in Georgia, and y^e evidence I have that their intentions are against this State and that soon have induced me to request that you would leave, under a suitable guard, your waggons, and reach Dorchester (near this Town) as soon as possible - you will announce to me by a light Horseman the time when probably you will reach that place, when you will see me or receive my wishes respecting your further movements - Give me leave to assure you that your speedy arrival is most ardently wished, and that it is not more so, than necessary for y^e safety of this State -

Col. Washington

I am Sir &c

of Baylors' Hoop

3rd Copies of y^e above letter were dispatched to Gen^{ls} Woodford, Hogan, & Scott - and officers commanding troops marching to Charl Town -

RW 934

Sir,

Charl Town Feb 11. 1780

I had the honor of your Excellency's favor of the 8th inst this morning - I have recd intelligence that Gen^l Clinton had arrived at Savannah with 8000 men - This minute I am informed that 50 sail of vessels got into North Edisto this afternoon - between 30 and 40 miles from Town - we may soon expect the enemy before it - I have the honor to be &c

His Ex^{ty} Sam^l Huntington Esq

Presid^t of Congress

RW 935

148 Cha! Town Feb 11. 1780

My dear General,

I have rec'd information that on the
third instant the enemy landed —
See this letter page 196 to which read this P.S

Feb 12. 3 o'clock in 2^d morning — By a person just from
Edisto I learn that the number of Rebels in at y^e harbour
there are a little short of fifty — I am collecting the
troops and posting them in and near this Town, saving
the light Horse and 200 light troops, those are in the
southern part of the State left wth a view to hang on the
enemys left flank, should they attempt to march across
land, and prevent y^e small parties strutting into the
Country, and plundering and despoiling inhabitants.

Genl Washington

Cha! Town Feb 12. 1780

Dear Sir,

I am informed by Genl. Mifflin that
Mr. Rutledge, when at the assembly in W^{ash}ington, promises
them that their militia should have militia pay of this
State — I find that they have included in their rolls
the pay of their State also — I wish the whole might be
paid them, as many have not rec'd their bounty this
will serve to quiet them —

Cha! Town Feb 12. 1780

D^r Sir, I have been honored wth 2 letters from your
board of W. 7 & 8 others —

The enemy came yesterday into North
Edisto, between 30 and 40 miles from this town, wth forty or
fifty — Serjt. Hambright brings this — he comes wth a
public Horse, and has rec'd 800 dollars, as he has
faithfully served the time for which he engaged —
I wish his expenses from this to Philad^a might be
paid him — if he delivers his letters wth faithfulness &

dispatch —

I am D^r Sir &c

Col. P. Pickens
Board of War

199

Chal Town Feb 12. 1780

Mr, I have been informed that the enemy came yesterday into North Edisto, probably wth an intention to land somewhere in the vicinity thereof, and from the critical knowledge you have of that Country, and your acquaintance wth service, it becomes necessary that I should request you to apply to Gen^l Livingston for thirty light Horsemen, and that you proceed with them as soon as possible, to reconnoitre the enemy, and discover if possible their intentions, and give me wth earliest notice of your discoveries

Col. Malmady

RW 939

I am Sir, yr most obed^tChal Town Feb 12th 1780

Dear Colonel

The information I have rec^d that forty odd sail of the enemy's vessels have got into North Edisto induces me to give you the earliest notice thereof that you may govern yourself, as exigencies may require — I wish you to send yr enclosed letter for Mr Lenox into Savannah wth a flag — instructing yr Person who carries it to endeavor obtaining some information of the enemy's movements — You will continue, agreeable to my former orders, should the enemy cross the river to hang on their flanks, and harass them as much as possible

Colonel Dan^l Horry

RW 937

I am Sir, yr obed^t

Chal Town Feb 12. 1780

Mr, I have found it necessary to apply to V^o Margues of Beligny to assemble the French people in this Town formerly under his command, as well for yr safety of their own fortunes as for yr common interest of this State and that of the United States and their allies, in which I cannot doubt but you will give every possible assistance — M^r Mally was kind enough the other day to tender his assistance with the troops under his command if necessary, which offer I shall now gladly accept, and have requested to see him on the subject — I am Sir yr

Mon^r Plombard

RW 940

W. Mearns, Chat Town Feb 3. 1788 9 o'clock evening

While I have the honor to command an
army, I hope I never shall be too busy to attend to
all applications from y^e Hospital.

The new regulations you propose
I think are right and I wish you would fill all
vacancies by men of integrity, approved abilities,
and attention to business — I observe further that you
have estimated your supplies for an army of ten
thousand men — that is more than I expect in
y^e field — I wish we had half of them — I would
have you make preparation for half first.

As we have not the money in y^e Treasury Chest
I have requested y^e Governor to lend the money from
the State Treasury — I do myself the pleasure to
enclose my letter to him by which you will see that
I have asked three hundred thousand dollars for y^e
use of your department — the sooner you apply for it
y^e better — I am &c.

Doctor Oliphant

Chat Town Feb 13. 1788

Dear Sir,

I have attentively read the letter from Capt.
and shew to you on y^e subject of anchoring
the ships before the Bar at y^e entrance of this harbor.
I am much obliged to you and y^e Gent^l for your
attention to my request — I am fully convinced that
at some particular time it may be difficult, if
not impossible to lay with the broadsides of the ships
to y^e Channel and that there will be a ripple of
y^e ships should they take their stations in and
near five fathom hole — yet I am so fully convinced
that the probable services which they will render them
should the enemy attempt to come over the bar
and the evils consequent on their getting into this

20. harbour that y^e attempt ought to be made and
that y^e measure thereby can be justified — for the
safety of this Town lies in reducing the enemy's attempts
on it to a land attack — If y^e mouth of the river
is left uncovered by our ships, they can in the first
place bring in their frigates and cover their heavier
ships, while they lighten and get over the Bar, this
may be done at a time when it will be impossible
if our ships are within Fort Moultrie to get down
to annoy them —

If, Sir, the ships should take post to act
in conjunction wth Fort Moultrie which would greatly
support it, and while that remained in our possession y^e
enemy might be checked in their progress to Town
— but if the enemy, should, by works on Raddel's point
reduce that fort you must immediately leave
your station before it, and should you be followed
by the ships, which may be got over the Bar, you
must be driven into the rivers and the port of the
Town left uncovered — from these considerations I am
induced to request that you as soon as possible
station the Providence, Boston, Brucole, and Truitt,
with such of the Gallies, as in your opinion may
be serviceable, near the Bar, so as best to command
the entrance of it. I wish to have the pleasure
of seeing you this morning —

I am D^r Sir &c

Commodore Whipple

RW 941 (2)

Char Town Feb 7 15. 1780

My Dear Genl.

In my last I had the honor of informing
Your Excellency that y^e enemy's fleet had arrived in N^o
Edisto — since that they have landed their troops on
Simmons's Island, and marched part of them to the
N^o end of John's Island — I have not been able yet to
learn wth any degree of certainty their numbers — for
altho we have frequent information from Savannah
yet as the troops were kept on board their ships,
little was known of them in Towns — what will be
the mode of attack on this Town is yet uncertain —
different

RW 946 (1)

262. plans have been hinted by the friends of Government
— but they are too wild to be credited

Genl Washington

I have the honor to be &c

Charl Town Feb 15. 1780

Dear Sir,

you will please to order the Bricole to be
hauled off tomorrow morning into the Channel
opposite to the Fort between Gibbs's battery and
New Cut on James Island — on her arrival you will
direct her to be supplied with six eighteen p.
wooded, watered, victualled, manned and completely
fitted as soon as possible to be before the Bar

Commodore Whipple Saml D. Jr &c

Charl Town Feb 15. 1780

Dear Sir,

By the last accounts of the enemy, they
are dispersed to different parts of John's Island —
I cannot learn with any degree of certainty what
their numbers are, or by whom commanded — I am
at too great a distance from you to give you any
very particular or positive orders — but from what
appears to me of the enemy's situation and intentions,
you had better move on further towards the Fort,
for if all is quiet in your quarter, and there is
nothing which should induce you to believe that part
of their troops are to cross the Savannah or land from
Port Royal Island, the reasons which dictated the ne-
cessity of your being sent to Sheldon now cease — you
will move this way on the lower road, and cause all
the cattle, Hops, Horses, and indeed every article which
shall either nourish the enemy, or facilitate their
movements, to be removed. I do not mean the provisions
of any distressed family, who cannot be removed. The forage
and all wheel carriages and boats you will pay

203. particular attention to - The Beef, Hogs and Sheep
which you shall collect you will from time to time send
on to town under a strong guard of light infantry -
the troops must be sent off either back far into the country
or over land - to support you in this so necessary business
as well as in opposing y^r enemy, you have permission
to call on the militia to give you every possible
assistance, and to authorize you doing it. I do myself
the pleasure to enclose the Governor's orders to them -
let me hear from you once in a day at least, and
if you have no news tell me so.

Colonel Dan. Horry

RW 945 (2)

I am D^r Sir

Char^l Town Feb. 1. 1780

You will proceed as soon as possible to Sheldon
where you will meet your own regiment, the Corps under
y^r command of Major Pernier, the Virginia Corps under
Major Jameson, and two hundred light troops
besides the militia ordered to join you by the Gov^r.
You will constantly keep a party of troops patrolling
the country near the river Savannah - they will
not remain two nights in one place, or stay all
night where they halt at dark - they will give all
possible support to y^r inhabitants, and endeavor to
take and bring off all small parties of the
enemy, who may be sent across the river - your
will encamp your main body between Sheldon
and Samlakee river, frequently shifting your post
and always observing the utmost watchfulness
that you are not surprised by the enemy - If they
should cross the Savannah in force and march
towards this town, you will give them every an-
noyance in your power, by hanging on their
left flank, removing all provisions out of their
way

RW 924 (1)

and preventing small parties from spreading themselves, and laying waste the country - remembering always to force your retreat in Town before the enemy can reach it - Employ the best persons you can get for obtaining intelligence of the enemy's movements in Havana and elsewhere, the expence will be refunded and give me every information necessary for me to know.

Colonel Danl. Horry

Colonel D. Horry

RW 924(2)

By the Honble Major Genl. Lincoln commanding the Forces of the United States of America - To John Tennant Esq. Lieut. Colonel, and Inspector of the Army in the same Department

Whereas Congress have informed me of the designs of His Catholic Majesty against the Floridas, and their intentions, in case Spain through His Excellency the Governor of Havana, or otherwise, with a ship the American arms with a naval force, and troops sufficient, so as to gain the possession of Georgia to co-operate with them in the reduction of F. Florida and have authorised me for this purpose to correspond w. the Governor of Havana, or any other person or person properly authorised by His Catholic Majesty, and with him concert such plans as shall be best calculated to promote the views of His Catholic Majesty, and those of Congress - you are, therefore, hereby requested to proceed in the Schooner Eagle, now ready to receive you on board, to Havana, and you are empowered on your arrival to concert with the Governor, or such person a person, shall be duly authorised to confer with you, and

205/ agree upon such plans as shall be thought most
- calculated to insure the reduction of the enemy's force
in the State of Georgia, and for the conduct of the same
— you will settle the force to be sent by each power
and what supplies they are to provide—

From the knowledge you have of
Service, the intimate acquaintance you have with our
Strength and resources— I need not on this occasion be
particular— I have now only to remind you, that a
every engagement entered into on our part, must be
complied with, you will act within the compass
of our abilities

Gwin at Head Quarters, Chat Town Feb 4. 1780.

By the General's command } signed B. Lincoln
W. Jackson Secretary }

RW 943

Sir,

Chat Town Feb 6. 1780

as the Schooner Eagle, Capt. Houp Master, is
now ready for sea, you will please to order him to
take on board Lieut. Col. Tennant, and the first wind
proceed wth all possible dispatch for the Havana—
he will take Col. Tennant's orders wth respect to re-
turning to this Port wth dispatches for me, or waiting
there untill he can return— In short the Captain is
to take his orders in every matter during y^r voyage
saving that of navigating the vessel—

Commodore Whipple

RW 948

26
Dear Sir.

Charl Town Feb 7 14. 1780

Having been honoured by Congress wth the
assignment of this Troop in the Southern Department, and
as from the present aspect of affairs in this quarter
there is the highest reason to conclude the enemy
will shortly invest this Town in very considerable force.
I find myself in a peculiar and very critical situation
from the novelty of having Continent Troops shut up in a
besieged Town — to this no General Officer has, during
the war, submitted — but, under similar circumstances
with ours — an attempt has been made to cover the
Country and leave the City to its fate — no consideration
could induce me to adopt a new mode of conduct
or would justify my doing it, but the hope I have of
being supported by the people of the Country, and of
this I ought to have the fullest assurance —

I flatter myself thereupon that when
before 2000 militia should be called in from the
Country, and if that succour should fail that a
like number of Blacks be armed for the defence of
the Town, that my request will not be thought
improper or any other than its safety makes
indispensable. I am D^r Sir &c

Governor Rutledge Charl Town Feb 7 14. 1780

Sir, From y^r want of monies to answer y^e different
demands in this department, I have been under the
necessity of drawing y^e undermentioned bills on
Congress, which I hope will be honoured.

	Dollars.
for R. Smith Esq. pay ^d 10 days fight	150, 000
Feb 7. for Mr Sollier 64, 883 and 14, 783. —	79, 666
for Furian &c. 18, 557, 30, 770, & 30, 769	80 - 09 6
	<u>309, 762</u>

Nothing material has taken place since my
last of y^e 11 instant except the enemy having

207 landed part of their troops and marched them to
John's Island — I am fir & ca
His Excellency The President of Congress

RW 942 (2)

Chas. Town Feb. 10. 1780.

Dear Sir,
I remember wth grateful sentiments your kind
offer to put yourself at y^e head of your troops, and act
in conjunction wth y^e Americans in y^e defence of
this Town, But as they are now on board the
ships, and are wanted there fully to man her —
and as the enemy make a show of troops in front
and on y^e right of y^e Town, I am of opinion if your ship
was to haul into y^e channel opposite Gibbs's wharf,
y^e troops — I have therefore to request that you would
please cause her to be stationed there, should the
direction of y^e ship be with you, if not to beg your
interest with those who have the controul of her
Colonel Matty I am fir & ca

RW 949

Dear Sir, Chas. Town Feb. 18. 1780

By letter rec^d last night from the Committee
of Congress, I am informed as a matter that might
be relied on / that y^e enemy embarked 2000 men
from New York, and that Gen. Clinton and Lord
Cornwallis are with them — Governor Martin with a
considerable number of N^o Carolina refugees sailed
with the expedition — they flatter themselves with
the expectation of being able to effect the reduction
of both y^e Carolinas by May next, and intend
acting on a very different plan from what they
formerly have, that of sitting the Country as
they conquer it — what force has arrived have
landed on John's Island — I have no certain
information of their numbers — but from some
circumstances I think their whole force is

RW 950 (1)

MS is not arrived, and I hope there will be get
time to receive such succours as may be sent
from your State — I am happy to learn by
Major Clarkson that they will probably be
ample, and that I may expect wth pleasure
of seeing you here, a circumstance, which I
do assure you, Sir, affords me the highest satis-
faction — I hope the State will not object
to your leaving them on this occasion

Governor Lapwell I am Sir &c

I am just informed that a number of arms
are lately arrived in your State — I hope
your people will come well armed and
supplied with ammⁿ, lead at least

I am Sir,
Yours &c

RW 950(2)

The book of letters following there is in the
original form of the same volume 2 — Aug 26 1890



